

Qasem, Sharaa discuss Lebanon

BEIRUT (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Farouq al-Qasem and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Sharaa met on Saturday to discuss the situation in Lebanon. Qasem reaffirmed Jordan's position that all efforts should be directed to supporting the tripartite Arab committee on Lebanon and removing all obstacles that hinder the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Arab summit held in Casablanca in May. Jordan supports all steps to reactivate the committee's mission, Qasem said. In an earlier statement to Petra, Qasem said that there was a consensus at the non-aligned foreign ministers' meeting here preparing for a summit of their leaders opening Monday to support the stand of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) towards settling the Middle East conflict. He said he expected the summit to expedite the unity of Lebanon and to support Arab and international efforts to resolve the Lebanese conflict. Both Qasem and Sharaa are attending the foreign ministers' conference.

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King underlines RJ's national role, reaffirms confidence

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday reaffirmed confidence in Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, describing it as "a national institution, providing distinguished services and projecting Jordan's bright image to the outside world."

"We express our pride in this institution and deeply appreciate its efforts and those of its staff, and we will continue to extend it all support so that it can carry out its cultural mission in the best possible manner," King Hussein said at a meeting with RJ board of directors held at Al Nadwa Palace.

The airline, to enable itself to provide the best possible services and cut on maintenance costs should maintain a modern fleet of aircraft, the King said.

"I am confident that the RJ will soon embark on a programme designed to orient the public on its achievements, to project its leading role among other airlines and to improve its performance and operational services," the King noted.

"We are looking forward to see RJ adopting a clear strategy of planning and function with a clear sight, skilled management and thorough investigation so that the best results can be achieved," King Hussein added.

"RJ's flight programmes between Amman and Aqaba are a source of real satisfaction to everyone since they entail immense benefits for the country as a whole," the King said. He voiced his best wishes for the RJ board and staff for success in their endeavours and achieve further progress.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, along with the board members of RJ, attended the meeting.

King visits army unit

Later King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces visited an army unit and paid tribute to the achievements attained through the years. Addressing conscripts of the Artillery Corps, the King noted that they were part of the army

Abu Hassan appointed chairman of RJ

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday approved the appointment of Khalid Abu Hassan as chairman of the board of directors of Royal Jordanian (RJ) and Khalil Talhoumi as member of the board.

The Cabinet also approved the appointment of Mihjib Khreishah as adviser at the Prime Ministry by transferring him from the Ministry of Interior.

carrying the message of the Great Arab Revolt and standing in the face of challenges in defence of the Arab Order.

At the outset of the visit, the King was briefed about the duties and the training exercises of the Artillery Corps. The King was accompanied by Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb.

5 Palestinians killed in mounting violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Five Palestinians died in mounting violence in the Israeli-occupied territories Saturday, two of them gunned down in a rare shoot out with troops in the West Bank town of Nablus.

A terse army statement said soldiers killed two "terrorists" in a clash in the early hours, wounding and arresting three others. Palestinians said all five activists were wanted by security forces and some were armed. No soldiers were wounded.

Residents of the Rafidia district in Nablus reported prolonged bursts of gunfire near the Al Najah University campus and said troops fired flares to illuminate the night sky.

Gunbattles have been rare in the 20-month-old uprising which has largely shunned firearms for stones, petrol bombs and civil disobedience against the Israeli occupation.

Stone-throwing demonstrators in Nablus clashed with troops as news of the incident spread and soldiers shot dead a 14-year-old girl and wounded 10 protesters, hospital officials told Reuters by telephone.

The army then placed the town of 120,000 under curfew.

Saturday's casualties took the death toll in the revolt to at least 628 Palestinians. Thirty Arabs have died in a surge of violence over the past two weeks.

Palestinian leaders said the escalation reflected growing frustration among young Palestinian street activists in the face of political stalemate, high Palestinian casualties and increasing

economic pressure.

"In the absence of a political initiative the name of the next day is violence," said Radwan Abu Ayash, a moderate Palestinian activist who described the "increase" in "bloodshed" as alarming.

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) are in a stand-off over the Israeli proposal for elections in the occupied territories to choose Arabs to negotiate limited self-rule.

In another aspect of the mounting violence, Palestinians said masked youths shot dead a 30-year-old Arab in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah.

They said Abdullah Abu Shaouf was a drug dealer suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities.

Three other alleged collaborators were killed Friday.

In Jerusalem's Mokassas hospital, Mustafa Hussein Dabab, 37, of Ramallah died of head wounds sustained a week ago when his car was stoned. Palestinians said Israeli settlers in the West Bank threw the rocks.

About 25 left-wing Israeli demonstrators at the Erez checkpoint on the Gaza Strip boundary against computer-coded identity cards that residents must now use to enter Israel.

Gaza workers have boycotted jobs in Israel for two weeks in protest at the cards.

A U.S. citizen active in an American pro-Palestinian group said Friday he was ordered to provide Israeli authorities with a list of Palestinians he met before he could board his plane back

home.

Mark Bruzonsky, an American Jew from Washington, D.C., told the Associated Press that Israeli officers told him he must answer "all their questions" before he could be given security clearance to board his Pan Am flight Friday morning.

Bruzonsky, chairman of the Jewish Committee on the Middle East, said he agreed to comply with any requests relevant to aviation security but refused to provide names of Palestinians he met while on his three-week visit here.

"I will not discuss my personal life," he said.

He added that "to the best of my knowledge, none of the Palestinians I spoke to are involved in anything that is illegal."

Bruzonsky said he called the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv for help. Embassy spokesman Donald Coffman would only say "all we can do is try to determine in a U.S. citizen is being treated in a discriminatory manner" and refused further comment on the matter.

Bruzonsky said his organisation, established last January, was working to urge U.S. opposition to Israeli policy in the occupied territories.

"We want to end the special relationship between Israel and the United States, as well as reduce American aid to Israel," he said.

Bruzonsky also claimed that other members of his group, who frequently visit Israel and the occupied territories, have been questioned by Israeli authorities.



Bassam Saket takes Saturday the oath of office as agriculture minister

Badran replaces Nsour; Saket named successor

AMMAN (J.T.) — A minor Cabinet reshuffle went into effect Saturday to fill the posts of cabinet ministers who handed in their resignations last week to run in general elections in November.

A Royal Decree approved the appointment of Adnan Badran as Minister of Education in place of Abdullah Nsour, and Dr. Bassam Al Saket as Minister of Agriculture replacing Badran.

Saket was sworn in before His

Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Court in the presence of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Royal Court Chief Mudar Badran.

The duties of the Minister of Public Works and Housing were assigned to Hisham Khatib who will also maintain his existing duties as Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, according to informed sources.

60 detainees linked to April unrest freed

By Ghadeer Taber
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The government Saturday released 60 people detained for their suspected involvement in the riots that hit the southern region as well as Salt near the capital last April.

In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, an official spokesman for the Interior Ministry said: "In accordance with the directives of His Majesty King Hussein a total of 60 detainees whom the security authorities detained in April were released tonight. This measure signals an end to the events which took place that month."

Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Majali, director-general of the Public Security Department (PSD), had earlier confirmed to the Jordan Times that

"around 60 prisoners will be released this evening."

According to Majali, all those detained in connection with the April riots, sparked by price increases, have now been released. "There is no one left," Majali said. "We do not have political prisoners," he said. "Those freed Saturday were originally arrested because they did something against the law," he added in a telephone interview.

The 60 released prisoners, believed to be mainly from the banned Communist Party, who according to sources, were believed to have distributed leaflets urging people to take part in the April riots.

In early May, the government released 68 prisoners in line with a directive issued by King Hussein, who met with

leaders from the regions affected by the riots and called for national unity.

Following Saturday's release, sources claimed that four others were still in detention. "There are two who were arrested during the riots and two others were detained later," said the source. "They have not been released." The claim could not be immediately verified.

The government did not charge the detainees who were held without trial for nearly five months under martial law orders but accused them of "subversive activities."

"There are no Communists left in detention," Majali said Saturday.

During their detention, the detainees had appealed for their release through several letters to the King and govern-

ment. They had also called for the lifting of martial law, in force since 1967, and for legalisation of political parties.

Saturday's release comes ahead of the Nov. 8 general elections — the first parliamentary polls in the Kingdom in 22 years — but it is not clear yet whether political parties would be allowed to contest elections. Senior officials have said that political parties could be allowed to function as long as they did not violate the constitution but have given no timeframe. Article 18 of the amended Election Law of 1986 bans any person affiliated with banned political parties or organisations from seeking parliamentary seats.

"How can we let anyone run from a party that is against the constitution?" Majali said when

asked if Article 18 would be applied to the letter.

Sources familiar with top-level official thinking said indications were that political parties would be allowed to function after the general elections are over. The legal framework for the parties, the source said, will be guided by a national charter emphasising Jordan's national unity and structure.

According to the same sources, work has not yet begun on drafting the national charter. It is believed that a committee including elected members of the new parliament would be entrusted with preparing it. Officials have dismissed international reports carrying what were described as "excerpts from a draft of the national pact."

Aoun assails U.S. stand on Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's army commander Major-General Michel Aoun accused Washington Saturday of ignoring his country's plight and giving tacit support to Syrian policy.

"The United States does not care about Lebanon. It has sold Lebanon," Aoun told a news conference for Lebanese journalists at his Baabda presidential palace. "when it says it is moved by our tragedies, it is lying."

He was speaking at Beirut enjoyed a period of relative quiet after 48 hours of fierce artillery bombardments between his mainly Christian army and Syrian forces and their Lebanese militia allies.

But security sources said heavy fighting with tanks and artillery had resumed across the strategic Souq Al Gharb ridge southeast of the city and that tank shells had hit nearby residential areas.

Witnesses reported skirmishes across the green line dividing Beirut and sporadic shelling of both sectors of the capital and along the Aoun-held coastline to the north.

FLO call

A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official has urged Muslim leaders in Lebanon to begin talks with Aoun to end the bloodshed.

The Qatari Al Sharq daily Saturday quoted Bassam Abu Sharif, political adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, as saying acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss should begin a dialogue with Aoun to work out a peace plan.

Abu Sharif said the plan should include steps for the election of a new president, formation of a national unity government and withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from Lebanon.

"A Lebanese-to-Lebanese dialogue far away from shelling and interference of any other party is the start of a long-term permanent solution to Lebanon," he was quoted as saying.

Aoun seeks Libyan help

Aoun has urged Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to press for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

Official sources said Aoun made the appeal in a letter of congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution.

They said Aoun asked for Libyan assistance to free Lebanon from foreign armies.

Aoun said he would only end his campaign when Syria agreed to leave. Syria says it will only pull out when Lebanon is united and stable.

Libya is a close ally of Syria but Qadhafi has said he supports Aoun's government.

Non-aligned role

In Belgrade, the Non-Aligned Movement is set to offer to help end Lebanon's bloodshed but diplomats in Belgrade doubted it would succeed where Arab and other international peace efforts have failed.

"The summit is going to offer to contribute to a solution in Lebanon, but regional struggles over Lebanon would probably hamper that," one Arab diplomat said.

A draft resolution on Lebanon, to be presented for debate at the non-aligned summit opening Monday, said the movement was ready "to contribute to the settlement of the Lebanese crisis and to put an end to the suffering of the Lebanese people."

Police said two people were killed and 18 wounded in Saturday's clashes, raising the casualty toll since fighting broke out March 8 to at least 824 killed and 2,438 wounded.

Eighteen people were killed and more than 100 wounded in 24 hours of non-stop shelling that eased off at midnight Friday (2100 GMT). Leaving buildings in flames and streets choked with rubble.

Smoke billowed from the wooded hills southeast of Beirut, where Syrian artillery batteries were hammered by Aoun's gunners in pre-dawn battles.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said the suburb of Shweifat southeast of Beirut took the brunt of the Aoun forces' artillery barrage during the night.

Amin Jirdi, a Shweifat native, said the area was "literally plowed by shellfire" for several hours before dawn by Howitzer fire that shattered houses, shops and businesses.

"Several fires blazed out of control through the night. We sheltered in a basement until early this morning when the intensity of the shelling decreased and we managed to get out," Jirdi said.

Beirut's Al Nahar daily said the heavy fighting of the last few days "indicates that French and Soviet efforts to find a settlement to the Lebanese crisis have reached a dead end."



A Lebanese militiaman loading a mortar during an exchange of artillery fire across Beirut

Iraq: No peace without direct talks with Iran

BAGHDAD (AP) — A senior Iraqi official Saturday accused Iran of sabotaging stalled peace talks by refusing to have face-to-face negotiations to formally end the eight-year Gulf war.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nizar Hamdoun told the Associated Press in an interview that there could be no lasting and comprehensive peace while Tehran rejects direct negotiations.

"Peace is like marriage, it needs two partners," he said. "If only one is present, there's no marriage."

Hamdoun was responding to a statement by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati last week in which he reiterated Tehran's rejection of direct negotiations.

"A peace settlement has been put off until the Iranian leadership takes the crucial decision to have face-to-face negotiations," Hamdoun said.

United Nations-sponsored peace talks began five days after a ceasefire took effect in August last year.

But they quickly bogged down, with both sides blaming the other for the deadlock. The third session held in Geneva in April broke down in an acrimonious

stalemate.

One of the major stumbling blocks is a dispute over the Shatt Al Arab waterway that forms the southern boundary between the two Gulf states and is Iraq's main outlet to the Gulf.

Iraq insists that a 1975 treaty that drew the border down the middle of the waterway, the confluence of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, has been abrogated, leaving the frontier on the eastern, Iranian bank.

Iran says the treaty, which gave it navigation rights in the waterway, is still valid.

The Iraqis want the Shatt Al Arab cleared of wrecked ships and dredged of war debris and silt. But Iran refused to make any move until the Iraqis withdraw from some 1,000 square kilometres of Iranian territory they still occupy.

Hamdoun stressed that Baghdad was ready for a permanent peace treaty, but said the Iraqis were dragging their feet and refuse to resume the talks.

The June 3 death of Iran's revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and the July 28 election of Hashemi Rafsanjani, raised hopes that there

could be movement in the negotiations.

Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, was instrumental in persuading Khomeini to unconditionally accept the U.N.-sponsored ceasefire last year.

But Hamdoun accused Iranian leaders of being indecisive on the peace efforts.

Rafsanjani said last month: "The state of no war, no peace, may last for some time."

Velayati and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz are currently in Belgrade attending the non-aligned summit conference and are expected to meet with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to fix a date for resuming the peace talks.

U.N. officials said Perez de Cuellar would meet separately with Velayati and Aziz to explore the possibility of resuming the negotiations later this year.

U.N. special envoy Jan Eliasson met senior Iranian and Iraqi diplomats in Geneva last week to prepare the ground for Perez de Cuellar's meetings.

But officials said those meetings failed to produce "any positive results" for an early resumption of the peace talks.

Ethiopia frees 900 detainees including Selassie's grandsons

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia released more than 900 prisoners Saturday, including three grandsons of the late emperor Haile Selassie, official sources said.

Ethiopia's Marxist government gave no immediate official reason for the mass release, which comes less than a week before it is due to enter unconditional peace talks in the United States with rebels from the northern Eritrean province.

The sources said 907 prisoners were released. Among them were 84 political prisoners, including Selassie's three grandsons, the princes' Wossen Seged Mekonnen, Michale Mekonnen and Bed-Mariam Mekonnen.

They were the last members of the royal family, deposed in 1974, still known to be in detention.

The government released seven other members of the royal family in May last year, including Selassie's daughter, Princess Tenagnework, who is now 80, and his daughter-in-law Sar

Gizaw, the mother of the three princes released Saturday.

The seven royals released last year and the three freed Saturday had been in detention since radical army officers overthrew Selassie in 1974 and established a Marxist government with close links to Moscow.

The identity of the other political prisoners and common Criminals released Saturday was not immediately known.

The government is due to open unconditional peace talks with the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) in Atlanta, Georgia, next Thursday with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter acting as an independent observer.

The EPLF has been fighting since 1961 for the independence of the Red Sea province of Eritrea, a former Italian colony which was federated with Ethiopia in 1952 and fully integrated with the country under pressure from Addis Ababa 10 years later.

The government has also agreed to open similar peace talks with the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and its allies who are fighting it in other provinces of northern Ethiopia.

Prospects for peace have been endangered by a flare-up in fighting this week between the TPLF and government forces. The TPLF said Saturday it had captured the strategic towns of Maychew and Korem and destroyed two army divisions.

Each side has blamed the other for starting the latest fighting, but both have said they are ready to go ahead with the planned peace talks, although neither date nor venue have been fixed.

TPLF spokesman Tewelde Gabriel told Reuters in Nairobi that his movement and its ally, the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement (EPDM), which operates in neighbouring Wollo and Gondar provinces, would negotiate jointly.

France may reduce troops in agreement with N'djamena

Chad announces PoW release a day after accord with Libya

N'DJAMENA (R) — Chad has announced it was releasing a group of Libyan prisoners, a day after it signed an accord with Libya to end their 15-year conflict.

A government statement said the move showed Chad's desire to live in peace with its neighbour "in the strict respect of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and its fundamental rights."

It did not say how many Libyans would be freed or when.

The statement, broadcast by state radio, said: "Chad has decided to free a group of Libyan prisoners. This is a gesture of goodwill and the fraternity of the Chad government to its Libyan brothers and their leader who celebrate today Sept. 1, the 20th anniversary of their revolution."

The accord was signed in Algiers Thursday on the eve of ceremonies marking the 20th anniversary of the military coup which swept away Libya's monarchy and brought Muammar Qadhafi to power.

Chad is believed to hold about 2,000 Libyans, most of them captured in fighting over the Aouzou Strip on their common border. The number of Chadian prisoners held by Libya is not known.

Political analysts said the issue of a prisoner release was central in Qadhafi's decision to accept the peace accord without insisting on his previously-stated condition that French troops backing the N'djamena government must leave Chad.

It was the first substantive move in implementing the Algiers accord which pledged to end the conflict and refer it to world court arbitration if necessary.

France's military task force in Chad is likely to be further trimmed as a result of the peace accord, French sources said Friday.

"Operation Sparrowhawk will probably be reduced in agreement with the Chadians," a senior official said 24 hours after the neighbours officially ended their 15-year-old conflict.

The two sides agreed in Algiers to settle their outstanding disputes through negotiation.

The accord covered sovereignty over the Aouzou Strip, a slice of the Sahara desert on their common frontier, as well as the release of prisoners and pledges of non-interference.

The French task force, code-named Sparrowhawk, was sent to Chad in early 1986 to bolster the puny forces of President Hissene Habre against Libyan invaders.

Its initial strength of 2,500 men backed by Mirage and Jaguar fighter aircraft has been gradually reduced as tensions in Chad have diminished.

But the present force of about 1,500 is still costing France an estimated one billion francs (\$160 million) a year.

"There is no reason to think that Sparrowhawk is an eternal force," Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement told the French television station La Cinq Thursday.

"The decision to remove this

force has not been taken. It will be announced the day it happens," he added.

Qadhafi has for years accused France of imperialism because of the task force but no reference was made to it in the eight-article Algiers agreement.

Chad is said to be holding about 2,000 Libyan prisoners of war and the timing of the accord meant Qadhafi could celebrate his 20 years in power amid hopes for their early release.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said the settlement was a further sign that Qadhafi's foreign policy was changing for the better.

"It is less directed towards expansionism and aggression which I think is a good thing," he told French state radio.

French Junior Minister Thierry de Reaumeaux was the second-ranking Western European representative in Tripoli for Qadhafi's anniversary, after Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis.

Libya's new Armed People go on parade

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya's new "Armed People," who theoretically replace the conventional armed forces, have made their first appearance — in a 20,000-strong parade marking the 20th anniversary of Muammar Qadhafi's revolution.

Column after column of men and women in traditional costumes and with Kalashnikov assault rifles slung over their shoulders marched past Qadhafi and visiting Arab and African heads of state.

The first contingents of women wore decorative green brocade dresses and many sported their best jewellery. Later groups were in assorted evening dress and some marched through the unseasonable drizzle in high-heeled shoes. Kalashnikovs were an essential accessory.

The men wore long pastel green shirts and baggy trousers, dark green waistcoats and foreign legion-style hats.

"These are the armed people who have taken the place of the traditional forces. This means Libya has one million fighters under arms," declared an official commentary on the parade.

A decree published Friday changed the name of the armed forces to the "Armed People" and created a general defence committee to take the place of the old general command staff.

But uniformed units of the Libyan army, navy and air force led the parade and it was not immediately clear whether the "Armed People" were old soldiers in new clothes.

King Hassan of Morocco put an end to speculation that he

was sulking when he turned up 90 minutes late, embraced Qadhafi and exchanged earnest whispers with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

The king had missed the special session of the Libyan parliament Friday morning, when Qadhafi pledged continuing support for liberation movements around the world.

The king, who is on his first visit to Libya and who has had troubled relations with Tripoli, is chairman of an Arab League committee commissioned to mediate in the Lebanese war. Benjedid and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia are the other members.

President Hafez Al Assad of Syria, whose 33,000 troops in Lebanon are one of the key issues in the conflict, missed the parade.

The marchpast included units from Algeria, Sudan, Syria, Morocco, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Uganda. The heads of state of these countries, except Mauritania, are attending the celebrations.

In his 20-minute speech at the special parliament session Qadhafi said:

"We bring good news to everyone fighting for freedom in Nicaragua, in Panama, in New Caledonia, in Mayotte, in Reunion, in South Africa, in Namibia, in Palestine, in French Guiana."

"We bring them the good news that their ally (Libya) is growing stronger and will not abandon them. And we will win, we will definitely win," he told Arab and African heads of state assembled in the Libyan parliament for anniversary celebrations.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Arafat gets Indian award

NEW DELHI (R) — India has awarded Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat its top award for promoting international understanding and goodwill. A government spokesman told reporters that in naming Arafat for the Jawaharlal Nehru Award, India was underlining its commitment to the right of all people to fight for freedom. "Bilateral relations between India and the PLO have always been good, based on India's consistent support for the Palestinian cause," he said. The award, which carries a cash prize of 1.5 million rupees (\$93,750), is named after India's first post-independence leader who fought for India's freedom from British rule. India staunchly supports the Palestinian uprising against Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and was the first non-Arab nation to recognise the state of Palestine when it was declared last December. The PLO office in New Delhi was upgraded to a full embassy in 1980. India does not have full diplomatic ties with Israel and Israeli representation is limited to a low level consulate in Bombay.

Tunisian fundamentalist to live in exile

TUNIS (R) — Rached Ghannouchi, leader of Tunisia's Muslim fundamentalists, has gone into voluntary exile because of worsening relations with the government, fundamentalist sources have said. "Sheikh Rached Ghannouchi has decided for the moment not to return to Tunisia and to stay abroad because the political horizons in the country are blocked," a spokesman for his organisation told Reuters. He added the fundamentalists would not renounce a demand for the legalisation of their political party, the Nadha. Ghannouchi is now in Algeria where he is taking part in a seminar on Islamic thought. The Nadha was refused to operate by the Interior Ministry on June 7 on the grounds that 15 of its members had not yet regained full civic rights following release from prison under a general amnesty. Ghannouchi formed his movement in 1978. It operated underground until former President Habib Bourguiba was removed from power towards the end of 1987.

Israeli minister to visit Soviet Union

TEL AVIV (R) — Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz will visit the Soviet Union next week, the first trip there by an Israeli cabinet member in 22 years, a member of his entourage has said. Katz-Oz will arrive in Tallinn, capital of Soviet Estonia, next Thursday for a flower show in which Israel is taking part, said the source, who asked not to be identified. He may also travel to Moscow for talks with senior Soviet agricultural officials, the source said. He said Katz-Oz would be in the Soviet Union for about a week, but the itinerary had not been finalised. An agriculture ministry spokesman refused to confirm or deny Katz-Oz's trip, which would be the first by an Israeli minister since Moscow severed ties with the Jewish state over the 1967 Middle East war. Pressed for confirmation, he said: "Publicity is harmful." Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon said last month he had been invited to the Soviet Republic of Georgia by visiting Georgian officials, but the Kremlin later denied there was an invitation. Sharon is a hawkish member of the right-wing Likud Party led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Katz-Oz is from the Labour Party of Deputy Premier Shimon Peres. The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported Friday that Katz-Oz had received an official invitation made with the knowledge of senior Soviet officials.

Vincennes tragedy was avoidable

WASHINGTON (AP) — A naval commander, in unusually candid remarks, says the USS Vincennes "shot down for no good reason" an Iranian civilian airliner last year, killing all 290 aboard. "Many people still believe that the entire affair was precipitated by the Iranians themselves, or that the Vincennes defended herself against an attack," Cmdr David R. Carlson said in this month's U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings magazine. Carlson, commander of the USS Vincennes, a frigate that was on the scene in the Gulf when the USS Vincennes shot down the plane on July 3, 1988, clearly put the blame on actions taken by the ship rather than an act of self-defence. "No profit has come from the pathetic post-incident attempts to place the blame on the victims," he wrote. "View it as you will, Iran Air Flight 655 was shot down for no good reason. Having watched the performance of the Vincennes for a month before the incident, my impression was clearly that an atmosphere of restraint was not her long suit," Carlson wrote. "Her actions appeared to be consistently aggressive, and had become a topic of wardroom conversation." Carlson suggests the crew of the Vincennes wanted to prove the viability of the ship's Aegis missiles in the Gulf. He said that on the day of the incident a crewman informed him that the Vincennes had classified the plane as an Iranian F-14 fighter. "I was also prepared to deal with an air threat, but in all honesty did not perceive one," Carlson said. According to Carlson, the event started with a Vincennes helicopter drawing fire from Iranian speedboats, which he claims were only warning shots. "The Vincennes saw an opportunity for action, and pressed hard for commander Middle East Force to give permission to fire," Carlson said. "The tragedy was avoidable, and we must learn from it," he said.

Rafsanjani: Non-Aligned Movement ineffective

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has rebuked the Non-Aligned Movement for failing to act effectively in ending wars. "Heads of these (non-aligned) states or their foreign ministers could have established peace in Afghanistan, Lebanon and other places of the world and given a just response to the Iraq-Iran war," Rafsanjani told Friday prayers in Tehran. Referring to the movement's summit in Belgrade next week, the Iranian president said: "We consider the conference itself blessed but do not regard its activities as sufficient." Rafsanjani, quoted by the Iranian News Agency IRNA, said the movement was a necessary alliance in the face of the two superpowers. Iran will be represented in Belgrade by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, IRNA said.

Egypt jails 26 belonging to clandestine group

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian court jailed 26 Muslim hardliners Saturday for belonging to a clandestine Islamic group alleged to have tried to overthrow the state.

The Supreme State Security Court jailed five of the accused, including two tried in their absence, for life at hard labour for attempting to kill two former interior ministers and a prominent magazine editor.

The other 21 were sentenced to jail terms ranging from one to 10

years after a 17-month mass trial. All the defendants had pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution said they belonged to an illegal group, "the Redeemed From Hell," one of several underground anti-government Islamic organisations in Egypt.

Prosecutor Maher Al Guindi described it as a "paramilitary clandestine terrorist group which brands society as blasphemous and atheist."

The court, meeting under armed police guard in a makeshift courtroom at an exhibition centre in the Cairo suburb of Nasr City, acquitted seven defendants for lack of evidence.

Relatives screamed and cried, some with joy and others with anger, as Judge Omar Al Oufi read out the verdicts and sentences.

The defendants, bearded and dressed in traditional galabiyas long robes, quietly sang religious songs as the hearing opened.

They later shouted anti-government slogans rejecting the verdicts as un-Islamic.

The prosecution had demanded death sentences for 15 defendants charged with attempted murder. The verdicts are not subject to appeal but they must be ratified by President Hosni Mubarak.

All but two of the accused had been in jail since 1987 following attacks on former Interior Ministers Hassan Abu Basha and Nabawi Ismail.

Afghan fighting heats up around Khost

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghan government forces were struggling to recapture at least two military posts near Khost as rebels escalated their fight for the border city, diplomatic sources have said.

"Khost is in trouble," one diplomat said of the city 20 kilometres from the Pakistani border. "It is teetering on the brink," of rebel capture, he said on condition of anonymity.

Other diplomatic sources said the attack seemed to be the most organised rebel assault since February, when the Soviet Union withdrew the last of more than 100,000 troops supporting the Kabul government.

Najib Saeed, deputy spokesman at the Afghan Foreign Ministry, and diplomats said the rebels, increasingly divided by disputes among their factions, apparently want to show leaders at next week's summit of Non-Aligned nations that they are still potent fighters. The summit starts Monday in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

The rebels also want to be noticed by the United Nations General Assembly, which opens later this month, the spokesman and diplomats said.

During the last 24 hours the guerrillas had used heavy artillery, rockets and machine guns against government positions surrounding Khost, Saeed said Friday. He accused Pakistan's armed forces of supplying the rebels from across the border and said Saudi Arabian Wahhabite militiamen were fighting in Afghanistan.

Afghan Armed Forces were responding with the air strikes, artillery and rockets, Saeed said.

Diplomatic sources said the government appeared to be having trouble recapturing two military posts at Tani, south of the city, despite heavy use of the Afghan Air Force.

Saeed denied that the city was threatened, saying the posts had changed hands a number of times since February.

Since the Soviets ended their nine-year occupation, the rebels have repeatedly tried to capture a city and make it a seat for their so-called "provisional government."

Their failure to capture Jalalabad, and recent internal clashes, have prompted the U.S. Congress to question whether it should further fund the rebels.

Khost, capital of eastern Paktia province, is considered one of the easiest targets because of its proximity to rebel bases in Pakistan and because the Afghan government has to supply its forces there by air since the road from Kabul has been cut.

In other fighting, Saeed said government forces had repulsed guerrilla forces in the south-eastern province of Kandahar and around Jalalabad, 120 kilometres east of the capital.

In Kabul, almost daily rocket attacks since June have ebbed.

Saeed said Friday that only one rocket had hit the city a day earlier. It landed in the Qali-E-Naharha neighbourhood, killing one civilian and injuring two.

Diplomats said the lull was apparently due to the guerrillas' concentration on Khost and the use of a new missile by the government.

The Afghan government has been using Scud rockets, a Soviet-designed missile with a range of up to 300 kilometres to fire on rebel positions in Jalalabad and Khost from the capital.

The government has also a new tactical weapon, the Soviet Frog-7, which has a range of up to 70 kilometres, the diplomats said.

The new rockets, first noticed

last week, have apparently extended the security belt around the city, the diplomats said.

"Once President Najib said they (the Afghan forces) had weapons they had not used yet. Perhaps this is it," one diplomat said.

Rocket attacks on Kabul since June have killed more than 300 people and injured more than 900.

Pakistan opposes pro-Najib move

Meanwhile Pakistan strove Friday to head off a resolution on Afghanistan at next week's Non-aligned summit suggesting President Najibullah's administration could join a national unity government in Kabul.

India, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe were among countries that favoured such a move but Pakistan, which supports an interim government proclaimed in February by Afghan rebels based in north-west Pakistan, strongly opposes the draft text.

"Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan is very clear... any move by the non-aligned would only complicate and create difficulties for the United Nations in its bid to resolve the issue," said a senior diplomat who asked not to be named.

His objections include the draft's appeal to the "international community as a whole to increase its humanitarian aid to the Afghan refugees in order to facilitate their repatriation and re-integration in Afghan society."

Islamabad has given shelter to more than three million Afghan refugees but does not want to let countries critical of its foreign policy to have a say in the refugee problem.

Pakistan's support for the rebels' interim government is expected to trigger a fierce debate



Mujahideen rebels stand guard at a resistance hideout inside Afghanistan

anti-Western fundamentalist groups.

The official was formerly the agency's national intelligence officer for the Middle East, an analytical job, and had little experience in the operations division responsible for purchasing and shipping arms, the newspaper quoted the critics as saying.

The Post did not name the official, saying that unnamed senior CIA officials had asked the newspaper to keep his name confidential. It said Webster still has confidence in the official and the CIA might use him overseas under State Department cover.

Among the critics questioning the shortage of arms being sent to

the Afghan rebels were Sens. David Boren and Robert C. Byrd, respectively chairmen of the Senate's Intelligence and Appropriations Committees.

Sen. Gordon J. Humphrey, who heads a special Senate Task Force on Afghanistan, told the newspaper that the CIA had "gone to sleep" after the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan last February.

Subsequently, Humphrey said, the supply of U.S. arms to the rebels declined to half what it was the first half of 1988 at a time when the Soviet Union was airlifting to the Kabul government massive new arm shipments.

JORDAN TELEVISION		19-03	
Tel: 73111-19		Maghreb	
PROGRAMME ONE		20-23	
15:30 Koran		20-23	
16:00 Programme review		20-23	
16:30 Children programme		20-23	
17:00 Football		20-23	
18:00 News summary in Arabic		20-23	
18:30 Local programme		20-23	
18:50 Give Me a Break		20-23	
19:15 Local programme		20-23	
19:40 Programme review		20-23	
20:00 News in Arabic		20-23	
20:30 Arabic series		20-23	
21:00 Programme review		20-23	
21:30 Local programme		20-23	
22:00 Varieties programme		20-23	
23:00 News summary in Arabic		20-23	
PROGRAMME TWO		20-23	
17:30 Le monde magique chantal goya		20-23	
18:00 Lodi story		20-23	
18:30 Perfico		20-23	
19:00 News in French		20-23	
19:15 Douce France		20-23	
19:30 News in Hebrew		20-23	
19:45 Varieties programme		20-23	
20:00 News in Arabic		20-23	
20:30 Foul up — Bleeps & Blunders		20-23	
21:10 Doc. "Bottle Line"		20-23	
22:00 News in English		20-23	
22:30 The Equilizer		20-23	
PRAYER TIMES		20-23	
06:47 (Sunrise) Fair		20-23	
07:07 (Sunrise) Fair		20-23	
12:35 Dhuhr		20-23	
16:10 'Asr		20-23	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR	
Amman	Min./max. temp. 14/32
Aqaba	23/34
Jordan Valley	15/35
	22/36
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31.4, Aqaba 35. Humidity reading: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 50 per cent.	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Hammad	67436
Dr. Mohammad Al-Horani	89652
Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khafaf	22520
Dr. Ismail Al-Zir	79418
Flora pharmacy	66192
Fordons pharmacy	77836
Al Asena pharmacy	63705
Nisrath pharmacy	62672
Al Saleh pharmacy	63743
Yacoub pharmacy	64493
Shimadani pharmacy	63760
JERUSALEM:	
Dr. Fakhri Al-Jabour	(-)
Al-Sarraf pharmacy	(98226)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Nash'at Ammani	(-)
Khalil pharmacy	98547
EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Department	66111
Civil Defence Emergency	63041
Rescue	199
Fire Brigade	192, 62111, 63777
Blood Bank	75121
Emergency Police	64342
Traffic Police	99590
Public Security Department	63021
Hotel Complaints	60800
Police Complaints	66116
Water and Sewerage	(-)
Complaints	89746
Assault Municipality	66111
Complaints	79711
Telephone Information	(directory assistance)
Overseas Calls	01020
Central Amman Telephone	62301
Repeater	62301
Abdullah Telephone Repairs	66101
Jordan Television	73111
Radio Jordan	77411
Water Authority	66101
Jordan Electricity Authority	81615
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel: (09)333005, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
16:30	Cairo (RJ)
16:35	Dhahran (RJ)
16:40	Kuwait (RJ)
16:45	Amman (RJ)
16:50	Larnaca (RJ)
16:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:00	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
17:05	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
17:10	Amman (RJ)
17:15	London, Cairo (BA)
17:45	Cairo (RJ)
18:00	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:20	Paris (RJ)
18:45	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
19:00	Breuel, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
11:45	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Doha (add.) (RJ)
12:15	Aqaba, Rome (RJ)
12:30	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
12:45	Amman (RJ)
12:50	Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
13:05	Amman (RJ)
13:10	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
13:15	Cairo (RJ)
13:20	Calcutta (RJ)
13:25	Kuwait (RJ)
13:30	Larnaca (RJ)
13:35	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
13:40	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
13:45	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
13:50	Amman (RJ)
13:55	London, Cairo (BA)
14:00	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
14:05	Amman (RJ)
14:10	Vienna, New York (RJ)
14:15	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
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15:20	Cairo (RJ)
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15:35	Larnaca (RJ)
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15:45	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
15:50	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
15:55	Amman (RJ)
16:00	London, Cairo (BA)
16:05	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
16:10	Cairo (RJ)
16:15	Calcutta (RJ)
16:20	Kuwait (RJ)
16:25	Larnaca (RJ)
16:30	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
16:35	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
16:40	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
16:45	Amman (RJ)
16:50	London, Cairo (BA)
16:55	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
17:00	Cairo (RJ)

Regional workshop to study means to expand private sector

By Mariam Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In the wake of the recent shift in economic priorities of Jordan, most officials have called for increased private sector role in the Kingdom's development projects and complain that private businessmen and industrialists were not living up to the government expectations as outlined in Jordan's successive five-year development plans.

It is precisely with the aim of identifying what the private sector could contribute to national efforts aimed at addressing economic difficulties and boost the economy in the short as well as long term that a two-day regional workshop begins here Sunday.

Though the topics covered at the seminar will be of a general nature, applying to most Arab countries, Jordanian officials are looking forward with hope that the Kingdom's private sector could learn a lot from its deliberations.

Organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the Amman Chamber of Industry, the workshop, entitled "Enhancement of the Role of the Private Sector in Development," will tackle issues that the participants consider vital if the role of the private sector is to be enhanced. Among the issues, which are considered main constituents of an investment climate are a) the political climate; b) appropriate economic policies; c) legal, administrative and organisational factors; and d) responsibilities of the private sector.

Other topics of discussion will include points raised by the findings of a recently completed in-

vestigative report by the Regional Bureau for Arab States and Europe (RBASE). The study aimed at identifying the constraints on the growth of the private sector and measures required to deal with the constraints and encourage private sector participation in the economies of certain developing countries. The study was undertaken in a response to requests from the governments in the region which have decided to promote the private sector's contribution to the development of their economies.

One of the main strategies adopted by the Jordanian government to boost its foreign currency reserves and strengthen the industrial base of the country is increased exports of locally manufactured goods through setting up new industries and encouraging expansion of present production capacities of existing industries. The strategy is showing signs of bearing fruit, according to most economists, who base their assessment on the increasing number of small and light industry projects in the Kingdom.

In this context, "the latest memorandum issued by the Central Bank of Jordan indicated that all foreign exchange returns from Jordan's exports will be converted at the current rate of the dollar," said Ali Dajani, senior advisor at the Chamber of Commerce. "This move was more than welcomed by the Amman Chamber of Industry and Jordanian manufacturers as well as all those interested in increasing Jordanian exports," he added.

Participants at the two-day workshop that begins Sunday include delegations from Cyprus, Egypt, Tunisia, Turkey, North Yemen and Jordan — all of them targets of UNDP missions in the region.

King honours 3 ACC mayors

AMMAN (Petra) His Majesty King Hussein Saturday conferred the Jordanian Independence Medal of the First Order on the mayors of Cairo, Baghdad and Sanaa, at a ceremony held at the Royal Court.

The mayors: Mahmoud Al Sharif of Cairo, Khaled Abdul Moneem Rashid of Baghdad and Hussein Maisouri of Sanaa were received by the King in the presence of Chief of the Royal Court Mudar Badran and Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh.

The four mayors are currently discussing matters related to boosting cooperation among the four capitals of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries.

Earlier, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker had a meeting in his office with the four mayors and praised their efforts which, he said, "is bound to open the way for an exchange of expertise in planning and organising cities and providing their residents with

essential services."

The four mayors explained their mission and outlined the idea of establishing a common institute to unify efforts in local administration.

The mayors also spoke about agreements for twinning Amman on the one hand and Sanaa, Baghdad and on the other.

An earlier agreement twinning Amman with Cairo was earlier signed by mayors of the two capitals.

3-week aviation safety training programme opens in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-week aviation safety training programme opened at the Amman Plaza Hotel in Amman Saturday.

A total of 41 participants from 12 airlines are taking part in the programme organised by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Training Centre in cooperation with the University of Southern California and the Southern Californian Safety Institute.

The programme according to an RJ statement is given in two parts: The first, is aviation safety

programme management and the second is aircraft accident investigation.

The two courses, along with future programmes, pave the way for participants to receive the aviation safety certificate programme which RJ training centre is currently developing with the two U.N. institutions.

RJ has been seeking to foster the development of the regional training concept in the area and is spearheading efforts for promoting Jordan as the focal point of

aviation training in the region.

Another RJ training programme developing at the centre is the "non-residential aviation management diploma programme" to meet the requirements of having qualified future managers in the developing airlines.

The diploma programme will be implemented jointly with McGill University, the American University of Beirut and the International Aviation Management Training Institute.

Jordanian, Syrian officials discuss boosting Hijaz Railway's operations

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) Syrian and Jordanian officials responsible for the Hijaz Railway met here Saturday to discuss boosting the railway's operation and increasing transportation of goods and passengers between Amman and Damascus.

The officials investigated the prospect of increasing the number of train trips and minimising procedures at the border post,

according to an official at the Jordanian-Hijaz Railway Corporation.

He said that the two sides agreed to hold another meeting in the Syrian border town of Ramtha soon to consider the rates of charge on transport in goods and passengers, as well as matters of maintenance.

Sub-committees were also

formed to tackle the side questions pertaining to the railway operations.

According to the official the meetings were decided on during a meeting in Damascus held in July by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee which called for stepped-up efforts to boost land transport operations between the two countries.

Specialists discuss dieting, food services in Arab World

AMMAN (J.T.) Specialists from Jordan and other Arab countries opened at the University of Jordan Saturday a two-day meeting on dieting and food services in the Arab World.

Specialists in nutrition and food related fields are to discuss the role of educational programmes in guiding Arab citizens on food matters and will review working papers dealing with dieting, food services at Jordanian hospitals and the prospect of establishing a pan-Arab nutrition society.

Addressing the opening session was the University's Deputy Pres-

ident, Adnan Al Bakhit, who underlined the role of nutrition specialists in the health educational process in Jordan and the Arab World.

"Since the 1950s Jordan has been increasingly concerned with the food services and dieting and food processing and has established a special department at the University of Jordan to deal with these issues," Bakhit noted.

He said that the Arab World is witnessing an alarming population growth which necessitates speedy action to bridge the gap between food consumption and production.

Two other speakers at the opening session also dwelt on the need to promote awareness on food value, the need to provide further food products and ensure food security for the Arab World.

Dr. Suleiman Arabiyat, the dean of the university's Faculty of Agriculture and Dr. Ahmad Faqih, rapporteur of the seminar's preparatory committee, both stressed the need for coping with new trends in the science of nutrition and for providing the right type of food for patients at Arab hospitals.

According to Arabiyat, his faculty is recruiting and training personnel to deal with issues related to food and nutrition at mother and child care centres.

ACC specialists seek to use modern technology for economic development

AMMAN (Petra) — Researchers and other specialists representing institutions concerned with science and technology in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a two-day meeting at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Saturday to discuss means of coordinating their efforts and to use modern technology for their countries economic development.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib delivered the opening address by outlining the general scientific and technological situation in the Arab World in general and the ACC states in particular.

"ACC countries have a high rate of students currently obtaining higher education at university level and this fact augurs well for the future development," the minister said.

Khatib pointed out that the national income in the four countries is relatively modest, and the national economies are mainly based on agricultural production rather than industry.

But, he said, with the growth in population, the increase in the number of Arab citizens obtaining higher education and embarking on research, one can expect a better economic performance in the future.

Khatib, however, warned that relying totally on imported technology without Arab contribution should be avoided, and researchers should exploit the ACC potentials to cope with modern scientific research and technology.

"So far, ACC countries have

offered very modest contribution in this field, but through cooperation and coordination of efforts, the road will be opened for advance and progress," the minister said.

ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammer said the socio-economic challenges confronting the ACC countries can be overcome through closer cooperation in scientific research and the employment of modern technology.

Participating delegations will present working papers on their countries' experiments in scientific research and technology.

According to the head of the Egyptian delegation, the two-day meeting will discuss the establishment of a data bank of ACC expertise to give impetus to the development process, and the employment of technology in promoting agriculture and farming of the desert lands in the ACC countries.

Analysing industrial projects

Also Saturday a four-week training seminar on analysing and assessing industrial project was opened at the RSS with the participation of representatives from government departments and private institutions in Jordan, as well

as a number of Arab countries. The seminar is organised by the World Bank in cooperation with the RSS.

The participants will deal with issues related to studies of markets, public administration, priorities in industrial investment and assessment of investment projects.

Addressing the opening session was Dr. Daoud Jabaji, the advisor to the RSS president, who noted that Arab countries have over the past decade made good progress in promoting their industrial sectors.

"What is needed now is a pooling of resources and a better organisation of potential in developing industry benefiting from foreign experiments," Jabaji said.

The RSS for its part, Jabaji added, has laid down programmes "to promote industry and trained personnel in order to provide assistance to industrial schemes in Jordan and abroad."

The current training seminar, Jabaji added, is part of a series of programmes initiated by the World Bank's Economic Development Institute in 1983 and is aimed at promoting industry in Jordan and the Arab region.

COOPERATION: United Arab Emirates University President Dr. Abdul Hafez Kurdi Saturday visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and met with RSS acting president. The discussions dealt with RSS activities, contribution to national development plans, and the prospects of cooperation with the UAE university. (Petra).

TRAINING COURSE: A total of twenty directors representing industrial and service institutions in Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and North Yemen Saturday enrolled in a course at the Jordan Institute of Administration on administration of maintenance operations.

Arab anti-smoking conference starts

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The second Arab anti-smoking conference started here Saturday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Held under the slogan "towards an anti-smoking Arab society," the opening session at the Royal Cultural Centre, was addressed by the Minister of Health Dr. Zubair Malhas, deputising for the Crown Prince.

The World Health Organisation (WHO), is taking part in the three-day conference and is represented by its regional director Dr. Hussein Abdul Razaq Al-Jazairi.

In his speech, the regional director warned against the hazards of smoking and the problems associated with it, both physical and financial.

"This conference is of great importance due to the fact that the habit of smoking has developed in the last few years to be an epidemic, causing the death of

more than one million smokers annually," Al-Jazairi said.

He said when the hazards of smoking were proven to be increasing, the multi-national tobacco producing companies boosted their measures to counteract anti-smoking campaigns.

"So governments found themselves facing the dilemma of having to balance between the health needs of their nations and the economic and political priorities." Thus these governments resorted to inacting legislations and devising programmes that can form an equal force to face the epidemic of smoking," he said.

According to Al-Jazairi, the Jordanian law prohibits all tobacco advertisement, and insists that the manufacturing companies print a warning against the dangers of smoking on all cigarette packets.

"The World Health Organisation is committed according to its constitution, to fight smoking and all that relates to it. Here, I

would like to refer to the resolution made in 1980 in which (WHO) encouraged all the members to implement strategies to counteract smoking, and reinforce those already existing with particular stress on the educational method. It also encouraged countries to forbid tobacco advertisements, or at least restrict and decrease them," he said.

According to Malhas, the tobacco advertising expenses of the seven major producing companies reached \$4 billion in the year 1988; excluding the fees charged by the governments on the production and imports of these "poisonous" substances.

Malhas voiced hope that the conference would succeed in uniting efforts and implementing new measures to counteract smoking, both on the national and international levels.

He concluded with a recommendation to accredit Al-Jazairi's speech as a document in the conference in which 12 Arab countries are participating.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

CONGRATULATIONS: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable of congratulations to the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani on the anniversary of his country's independence day. The King wished the Emir good health and the Qatari people continued progress and prosperity (Petra).

FESTIVAL: The Ministry of Culture will participate in the Babel Cultural Festival due to begin in Baghdad Sept. 22. The ministry will be represented by the National Folklore Troupe. The ministry also chose the Fuhais Folklore troupe to make performances representing national heritage. (Petra)

BILATERAL TALKS: Minister of Youth Dr. Awad Khleifat Saturday received Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Burgham at the conclusion of his tour of duty. The talks dealt with the youth and sporting relations between Jordan and Algeria. (Petra)

PARLIAMENTARIANS: A Jordanian parliamentary delegation left Amman Saturday to participate in the 82nd conference of the International Parliamentary Union due to convene in London Monday. The delegation, led by Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, includes Dr. Huzem Nuseibah, Dr. Khalil Salem, Parliament Secretary General Hani Kheir, and Zaid Zreikat. (Petra)

HIGHER EDUCATION: A delegation representing the general secretariat of the Arab Universities Association Saturday returned to Amman after participating in the fourth conference of the ministers and officials responsible for higher education and scientific research in the Arab World. (Petra)

ANIMAL FEED: North Ghor District Governor Khalaf Mahasneh has decided to form a committee to organise the process of distributing animal feed to stock breeders in the district. (Petra)



Samra meets Iraqi university head

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Riyad Hamed Dabbagh, president of the Al Mustashriq University in Iraq called Saturday at the University of Jordan and met with its president Mahmoud Al Samra. They discussed the implementation of an executive programme attached to a bilateral cultural agreement for 1989 and 1990.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawanmeh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maari at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jalal Orelqat at the Plastic Artists Association.
- ★ A North Korean exhibition of photos, books and handicrafts at the University of Jordan.

FILMS

- ★ A Soviet film week which includes films depicting life in the Soviet Union, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

QUIZ NIGHT

- ★ Quiz night organised by the U.K. Alumni Club at Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental 8:30 p.m.

Amman-Naour- Dead Sea highway reopens

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Amman-Naour-Dead Sea Highway will be reopened for traffic on Sept. 25 following a major expansion and improvement project carried out in four stages, according to Ministry of Public Works Secretary General Daoud Khalaf.

Khalaf made the announcement following an inspection tour of the road and a visit to the last stage being carried out between Adasieh town and Yarmouk Junction.

The fourth stage entailed building a 41-kilometre stretch as part of the Amman-Dead Sea highway which is partly financed through a grant from the United States Agency for International De-

velopment (USAID). The agency provided \$25 million to the project, considered of vital importance to upgrade the original Amman-Dead Sea Road to a four lane divided highway and avoid areas of recurrent landslides on the existing road, particularly near Adasieh.

The highway eliminates dangerous curves along the 1,400 metre drop from the highlands and will ease the heavy traffic, especially in the winter season.

The new highway shortens travel time and provides safer route for the heavy truck traffic bringing in agricultural produce to market from the Jordan Valley.

4-week course on poultry farm management opens

AMMAN — A regional training course opened Saturday at the Regional Poultry Training and Development Centre for the Near East near Amman.

Participants from Jordan and 13 other countries will discuss poultry farm management, financing, marketing policies, credit, providing natural and human resources for the poultry farm operations and planning issues during their four-week course.

The centre, which was set up with Italian government assist-

ance, aims to provide services to the countries of the Near East and to train personnel on means of developing poultry farming.

The centre offers courses and conducts regional seminars every year for participants from Arab and non-Arab countries in the region.

The participants come from: Jordan, North Yemen, Egypt, Syria, Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Sudan, Somalia, Cyprus and Afghanistan.

Die German Speaking Ladies in Amman, möchten bekanntgeben, dass ihr 1. Kaffeemorgen nach der Sommerpause am Montag, den 4. Sept. 89 von 9.30 - 12.00 in Amra Hotel stattfindet. Auch alle Neuankömmlinge sind herzlich willkommen.

VILLA TO LET

American system, located in Jabal Amman near Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. 518m² area, building of 235m². FIRST FLOOR: Salon, sitting & dining rooms, kitchen, watching stand and lavatory. SECOND FLOOR: 3 bedrooms, bathroom, glassed-in veranda and cupboard, central heating, telephone, garage with watching stand, lavatory, shower.

Please tel. res. 671718, office 689065 Mr. Imam.

HOUSE FOR RENT

LOCATION: Jabal Amman, near British Council, opposite the entrance of Bishop's School, beside Jerusalem Taxi office.

SPECIFICATIONS: 3 bedrooms, salon, dining & living rooms, kitchen & bathroom, 3 balconies, first floor, separate central heating.

ANNUAL RENT: JD 2,400.

Tel: 624156, 624906

ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that the intensive course in modern standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on Sept. 15, and will last for 16 weeks.

The programme is intensive and classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. The fee for the Course is JD 140. The evening course is non-intensive and classes meet six hours per week.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration.

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Jordan Times

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Private sector should assume role

IN EVERY developing or developed country, the private sector is always seen as one of the major components that could effectively boost the national economy and contribute to national growth and development. For some reason or the other, the sad reality remains in Jordan that many businessmen and industrialists have not been giving enough thought to their role. On the industrial side, it is clear that there is more than enough scope for many small and light industries in the Kingdom, whether export-oriented or otherwise. But, it would appear that such projects did not materialise so far simply because imports offer better profits, with the net result that Jordan continues to pay a heavy import bill for consumer products involving intermediate or low-level technology.

The two-day regional workshop that begins today in Amman should be a forum to many Jordanian businessmen and interested industrial entrepreneurs to realise that it is high time they stopped for a moment and considered the role that is expected of them in the national economic efforts. There is no denying the fact that the situation warrants a close government scrutiny of all projects and products, and tight quality control inspection as well as price controls. But that should not discourage from realising and appreciating the fact that Jordan, passing as it is through a critical phase in its economy, is pinning great hopes on them to contribute positively towards the country's quest for self-reliance. By no means the process could be an overnight event, particularly that discouragement could easily come from parties with vested interests in continued reliance on external sources for the country's needs.

The foremost thought entertained by businessmen and industrial entrepreneurs should be the acceptance of the fact that the country is striving to offer the right atmosphere for investment in relatively low-capital, low-technology industries. The clarifications and simplified investment regulations that the government is working on at present should be a watershed not only for local businessmen but also for foreign investors. But what is needed from Jordanians is accelerated moves to identify projects and lay the groundwork for them to materialise. The opportunities are there; but they stand the chance of being taken up by others.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily urged in its editorial Saturday the Non-Aligned Movement which has just opened meetings in Belgrade to assume a more significant role in world politics and in dealing with regional issues. The paper said that the movement which represents more than two thirds of the world population ought to embark on new activity to gain further credibility and prove itself as a world power. Adopting this plan means dealing with such issues as the Palestine question where the movement is urgently required to expose Israel's terrorist actions and help the Palestinian people regain their legitimate rights, the paper said. Another question which ought to be tackled by the movement's foreign ministers in Belgrade is transforming the current ceasefire between Iraq and Iran into a permanent peace, ensuring the stability and security of the Gulf region, the paper continued. In this regard the Non-Aligned Movement ought to exert pressure on Iran to accept the call of permanent peace with its neighbour, the paper added. The people of the Third World would like to see the Non-Aligned Movement which is 28 years old now acting in the spirit of and aiming to achieve the goals envisaged by its architects, the paper noted. Should it decide to take such practical action, the paper concluded, the movement would be entering a new phase and winning due respect.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday expresses the view that Jordan is now in need of a new group of politicians in parliament holding new ideas and new plans for developing their country. Tareq Masarweh says the coming parliamentary election campaign ought to reflect this objective and should involve all sectors of the public. The coming deputies in parliament ought to busy themselves with such questions as unemployment and not to find individual jobs for certain individuals, the writer notes. What is required, he says, are new big ideas and big minds that can deal with the numerous issues which the Kingdom is facing at the moment and important decisions that can find solutions. The coming Lower House of Parliament, the writer notes, should be able to present Jordan in its new form and new concept and take the country into the 21st century. The coming deputies will be the only qualified people to lead the way and draw up plans for Jordan's future, the writer concludes.

Al Dustour daily newspaper commented on the contents of a cable sent by the Central Bank of Jordan governor to His Majesty King Hussein, outlining the monetary situation in Jordan over the past month. The cable points to the achievement of Sharif Zaid's government and explains how in a matter of weeks the dinar regained public confidence which resulted in the stability of the national currency, the paper noted. It said that the cable made it clear that the achievement was only a first stage in a series of measures to be taken by the bank to bolster the national economy and enhance the people's confidence in their currency. The paper voices praise to and appreciation of the bank and its staff, led by the governor working under the wise guidance of King Hussein and implementing his directives.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Central Bank shifts priorities

THE CENTRAL Bank of Jordan (CBJ) gradually raised the official rate of exchange of the dollar against the dinar by 11 per cent during the past 100 days since May 20, 1989. CBJ also adopted a double tier exchange rate: one labelled official, and the other commercial. By doing so the CBJ has in effect abandoned the idea of pegging the dinar to gold or to the basket of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) in accordance with the requirements of the CBJ law in article 25.

There is no objection to all of that. I have already argued that article 25 was obsolete and has been by-passed by the recent economic developments. The application of this obsolete article in real life is neither useful nor practical or feasible. However article 25 must be formally abolished, or amended to authorise the Central Bank to float or fix the local currency rate as it may see fit under the circumstances, from time to time, without having to wait for a resolution by the Council of Ministers or publication in the official gazette.

Central banks all over the world are known to be very strict in

adhering to the law and respecting regulations. The law should not be ignored under any circumstances. Since the old law and the new reality are not compatible, the law should be amended to fit the situation, and to remove the discrepancy which the new management of the CBJ pointed out earlier but found itself unable to enforce.

On the other hand, the Central Bank issued consecutive circulars during August, announcing its readiness to supply the commercial banks and financial companies with all their needs of dollars at a rate lower every time than the previous one. This action indicated that the CBJ has shifted its emphasis from the rebuilding of its reserves of foreign exchange towards the support of the dinar exchange rate.

Building the reserve is no doubt a desired objective but it is not an urgent one, especially in a country suffering from a big deficit in its balance of payments to the tune of \$900 million, reduced to \$300 million after debts rescheduling.

Menem — early results promising

By Ed McCullough
The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Polls show that more Argentines approve of President Carlos Menem now than when he took office July 8, even though public service rates have more than tripled and the country still faces daunting financial problems.

"I think Menem is the only way to save the country," said Ricardo Gutierrez, who sells men's suits at an expensive Buenos Aires department store and, like more than half the electorate, did not vote for the Peronist candidate in May's balloting.

"I can't save anything," adds car salesman Juan Manuel Casa. 29. But "there is more stability. He's doing the right things."

With a few drastic measures, Menem has temporarily shored up a chaotic economy that election the radical Civic Union re-election, sparked food riots and forced his predecessor, Raul Alfonsin, out of office 22 weeks early.

Price hikes of several hundred per cent for electricity, gas, water, subway, bus and train fares have narrowed an unsustainable budget deficit. A 54 per cent devaluation stabilised the austral and brought down interest rates. Wage and price guidelines sharply reduced inflation.

In July, the cost of living soared by 197 per cent. The August rate is projected at 35 per cent; September at 10 per cent or less.

"What's most important is that it is going down" each month for the first time since last November, said business school dean Victor Vazquez-Presedo. "Everyone thought we were mired in hyperinflation, and that was frightening."

Argentina once was one of the world's wealthiest nations but has suffered from state domination of the economy for four decades. Triple-digit inflation, stagnant gross national product, capital flight, low investment, devalued currency and a host of related ills have worsened matters for the past decade.

Things came to a head last February, when the central bank ran low on foreign reserves. The dollar and interest rates soared as the austral plummeted in value. Businesses closed. Unemployment and underemployment increased.

But as winter turns into spring in this southern hemisphere nation, stores are well stocked and merchants accept credit cards again. The price of a steak or a carton of milk no longer is front-page news.

Early rains have bolstered predictions of a 41-million-ton harvest of all crops, up 60 per cent from last season. That is particularly important for export earnings — farm exports last year comprised about \$5.6 billion of roughly \$9 billion in total exports.

Central bank reserves have increased to about \$1 billion. The International Monetary Fund has resumed negotiations on Argentina's request for a \$1.5 billion loan.

Taking a taxi and dining out still are relative luxuries, but real wages are about 30 per cent higher than in June, even if they remain 30 per cent below January's levels.

"I have friends who renewed their passports in anticipation that things would not get better," said Isidro Solaga, an economist with the Latin America Research Foundation. "Now no one talks about that, and hardly any left."

Menem's Peronist Party

already had a base of organised labour. He has added middle-class support by appointing a conservative cabinet, pledging to sell off state industries and lowering taxes on farm exports.

Two polls taken since he took office put his public approval rating at 80 per cent or better. He won just under 50 per cent of the May 14 vote.

"What our polls are showing is that... when people are shown economic plans they have faith in, even though there must be sacrifices, there is public support," said Maribita Carballo de Ciley, who directed a Gallup poll that gave Menem a positive rating of 87 per cent.

While Menem has gotten off to a good start, all is not rosy.

An estimated 9 million of Argentina's 32 million citizens live at or below the poverty line, and about one in seven workers is unemployed. Soup kitchens, set up three months ago in this potentially rich agricultural nation, still dot the countryside.

Unions representing doctors, teachers, commuter-train personnel and others have staged strikes for higher wages or announced plans to do so. Police in north-west Tucuman province used tear gas Aug. 25 to disperse a sit-in by several hundred public employees.

The political coalition forged by Menem quickly approved legislation transferring authority from congress to the presidency to sell state companies, but is fraying over proposals to suspend subsidies to businesses and the provinces.

Organised labour fears privatisation may lead to cutbacks in jobs and wages, despite Menem's assurances to the contrary. Political opponents worry about the power he is concentrating in the presidency.

Menem's short tenure has been high-powered but low key. He twists arms to get organised labour to accept wage increases below inflation, big business to contribute to social welfare programmes, provinces to forego federal subsidies, farmers to plant more wheat and soybeans.

He also takes political risks. By setting aside Argentina's previous insistence that Britain discuss the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, which both countries claim, restoration of diplomatic relations with London are closer than at any time since the 1982 war.

Yet the slender, attorney and former provincial governor travels with few bodyguards, chats with reporters from the window of the four door sedan he drives to work, plays soccer with superstar Diego Maradona, and pilots race cars and military jets.

Such performances usually dovetail with policies.

The soccer match raised nearly 12 million australs (\$18,461) for charity. A recent flight as co-pilot of an Argentine Pampa IA-63 jet trainer showed his support for overseas weapons sales as well as for the armed forces that staged three barracks revolt against Alfonsin and six coups since 1930.

Human-rights groups aren't happy about the pardon or amnesty that is pending for military officers accused of torturing and executing leftist subversives during the 1976-83 dictatorship, but a fourth revolt seems as unlikely as a serious public outcry.

"People are hemmed in by the economy, by hunger," said Hebe de Bonafini, president of the human-rights group Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo.

In whose court is the ball?

By Munzir Manna

IT WAS with great interest that I read in New Times No. 32 the dialogue between the Israeli political scientist Mikhail Agursky and the Soviet scholar Vladimir Nosenko on the problems of the Middle East. I was compelled to write this article by the fact that one concerned party — the Palestine Liberation Organisation — was left outside the dialogue. As a PLO member and a Palestinian journalist, I believe it is my duty to express my opinion on the problem in question.

The session of the Palestine National Council, held in November 1988 in Algiers, adopted peaceful political initiatives against the backdrop of the over 19-month intifadeh. These initiatives are a manifestation of the profound conviction of Palestinians that the Middle Eastern conflict, of which the Palestinian problem is the main component, can be resolved only by political means and heeding the interests of the sides involved.

Professor Agursky questioned the sincerity of the PLO's new stance referring to the old stereotypes about Palestinians. But today we speak not of eliminating the state of Israel, but of restoring historic justice on the basis of the U.N. Resolution 181 (1947) and subsequent resolutions.

As for terror, let's see who resorts to it every day on the

occupied territories. The answer is obvious: It's Israeli troops and settlers. Thanks to mass media the whole world knows today how Palestinians are being exterminated on their native lands in cold blood. The term "civilian targets" means houses of Palestinians which Israeli troops demolish every day, Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon bombed by Israeli aircraft, closed schools and universities on the occupied territories. Daily 3 to 4 Palestinians perish, and hundreds get imprisoned... And what are, to use Professor Agursky's terminology, "the civilian targets" attacked by Palestinians? Israeli military bases and troops in Southern Lebanon?

Vladimir Nosenko was right to note that the PLO leadership condemned all forms of terrorism, state terrorism included.

As for the heterogeneity of the PLO, all the units incorporated in this national liberation movement have one common goal and programme — building an independent Palestine. The PLO heterogeneity is negligible compared to that in Israel's political setup. We can understand the doubts of Professor Agursky.

We have been living in a state of war for 40 years already, and it's hard for the Israelis to say good-bye to the occupied lands. At present the Israeli man-in-the-street is coming to realise that there is no going on living like that, since no one wants the war to continue.

Present times necessitate a good management of the funds not accumulating surpluses. It is of course an irony that we consumed our reserves during the years of abundance, and are trying to rebuild it at the time of crisis and shortages.

The management of the Central Bank is showing greater flexibility in dealing with the changing circumstances. It started several months ago by giving this task an utmost priority, and by mobilising public opinion in favour of a fixed exchange rate, SDR pegging and the rebuilding of the CBJ reserves. After only two months, it shifted the priority to combatting the black market and supporting the dinar exchange rate at the expense of the reserves.

The Central Bank should be commended for abandoning previous portions. It is now required to make up its mind regarding the reactivation of the money changing businesses, and returning to a single and flexible rate of exchange which would reflect supply and demand in a free market — an exchange rate that is realistic and that does not hinder the process of economic adjustment at the lowest social cost.

Professor Agursky also doubts the stance of Arab countries despite the fact that the latest Arab summit in Casablanca stated openly and directly that Arab countries favoured peaceful settlement in the Middle East on the basis of the Palestinian initiative and through convening an international conference.

We are prepared for a peaceful settlement. We have proposed a direct dialogue with Israel mediated by the Soviet Union and the U.S. in Moscow or Washington. But Israel seems unprepared to accept these constructive proposals put forward, in particular, at the Moscow meeting of Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and his American counterpart James Baker.

What does Israel suggest instead? Israel suggests elections in the occupied territories in line with the so-called Shamir plan, designed to gain time and to suppress the intifadeh.

I'm sure you'll agree that occupation is incompatible with democracy. The Israeli government wants Palestinians to vote against their only legitimate representative — the PLO, against Israeli troops pulled out from the occupied territories, against an international peace conference on the Middle East. This is what Palestinians will never do.

No one can be opposed to democratic elections, especially the people of Palestine. But we

are struggling for the elections being part of the settlement concept, part of a political settlement with the participation of all the sides concerned and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. In my opinion, great powers can and must play an important role in this process. The approach to solving the Namibian problem in the south of Africa might as well be used in the Middle East.

The intifadeh demonstrates that there will be no peace in the Middle East until the people of Palestine enjoy the right to complete self-determination and the state of Palestine becomes fully independent. It is proceeding from this that we should analyse the recent shifts in Israeli public opinion. Many Israelis admit that there must be two states in the area known in history as Palestine, and that the intifadeh has determined the borders of the future Palestinian state.

Many parties in Israel have already entered the dialogue with Palestinians, including members of the government coalition, and this tendency is developing. We are prepared to continue this dialogue.

I can't agree with Professor Agursky's contention that the ball is now in the Arab court. No, the ball is in the Israeli court. After Casablanca Palestinians and Arabs demonstrated their good will and are ready for a constructive solution of the problem — New Times

Colombia's history written in blood

By Tom Wells
The Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia — A chance encounter with a band of rebels or a hunt for gems in a jungle river can mean life or death in Colombia, a dangerous land long before the drug lords began their latest wave of terror.

The government's war with narcotics traffickers has captured the world's attention while partially obscuring the fact that Colombia, for many years, has been a violent place to live.

More than 75,000 people have been killed in political violence during the last 25 years, most of them in attempts by a half dozen leftist guerrilla groups to overthrow the Colombian government.

Between 1949 and 1953, another 250,000 people died in a war between the nation's two biggest political parties. Such was the hatred in that conflict that entire villages, including elderly people and children, were wiped out. Dump trucks would pour screaming prisoners over steep cliffs.

Today, guerrillas execute their own troops for treason, drug traffickers wage war on other drug traffickers, bandits battle for control of the nation's emerald mines, and right-wing death squads issue periodic reminders that they are still around.

Additionally, about 12,000 people are killed yearly by common criminals, the national police said in a recent communique.

The breadth and intensity of Colombian violence at any given time is perhaps why Colombians scoff when they hear foreign news reports that describe them as panicky and terror-stricken, a population huddled indoors while the drug war is played out.

Colombia's emerald mines, for example, are regular scenes of violence. Dozens have been killed as bandits struggle for control of the mines in the hot, steamy parts of the country.

An army colonel once told an Associated Press reporter who visited one of the mines that there is an average of one murder a day among the people who look for emeralds in a shallow river where a mine dumps rocks taken from a mine.

Emerald buyers who go to the mines travel in convoys and carry machine guns and hand grenades.

Several times a year the convoys coming from the mines are ambushed by bandits.

Two months ago, the army and a group involved in the emerald war battled with guns in an apartment building 200 yards from the U.S. ambassador's residence in Bogota. The army found anti-tank weapons, submachine guns and hand grenades in raided apartment.

Right-wing death squads have taken a heavy toll in Colombia, killing more than 1,000 people in the last four years.

The leftist Patriotic Union Party has been the hardest hit, with 751 of its members gunned down or blown up.

Colombia's justice department said recently it suspects the death squads are operated by drug traffickers.

Guerrillas long have extorted money from cattle ranchers in the form of a so called revolution tax. In recent years drug traffickers have bought up hundreds of ranches.

When the traffickers refused to pay the revolution tax, the guerrillas began kidnapping ranchers for ransom. The death squads are believed to be the drug traffickers' method of settling the score with the rebels.

Many of the Patriotic Union's members are former guerrillas who accepted an amnesty offered by the government four years ago.

Drug traffickers have been warring among themselves during the last year for supremacy in smuggling cocaine into the United States. So far 180 members of two gangs, one in Cali and the other in Medellin, have been killed.

Both guerrillas and the army of ten suspect peasants or boy guerrilla sympathisers or army spies.

Frequently, a guerrilla band will march through a jungle area and ask to buy food and other supplies from a farmer.

The peasant, afraid to refuse, sells much of what has. Then, the army arrives and says it has been told that the peasant has been helping the guerrillas.

The peasant is often tortured until he tells what he knows of the guerrillas who came through his farm.

After that, the guerrillas return and shoot the farmer for betraying them to the army.



LETTERS

Impressed

To the Editor:

AFTER reading Suhair Obeidat's article (Jordan Times, Aug. 16) on Al Bashir Hospital, I felt I had to reply.

I was recently referred to the radiography department of Al Bashir for treatment after an operation. I attended the hospital on a daily basis for five weeks and was under Dr. Samir Kayyad.

Based on my experience and what I saw during this time, I would like to say how impressed I was by the standard of medical care given. I was treated by a physician and lab. technicians who were meticulous in their work. The building was very clean and the queues were no longer than those in any inner-city hospital in England. I had every opportunity to return home, but refused for personal reasons, and I have no regrets.

I was also impressed by the attentiveness of the staff in general who took time to speak to their

patients, both elderly and young. Having said this, I was aware that the main area of the hospital was very crowded and not as well-kept. But my personal impression was that the staff were doing everything they could, facilities allowing, and the problems could be cured by an injection of funds rather than by criticism of the doctors and staff.

The treatment I received was free of charge. I understand that its actual cost would be far beyond the reach of most patients. However, I feel that foreigners like myself, who are insured by their own country, could make some financial contribution.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the doctors and staff of Al Bashir for all their help and kindness during a very difficult time.

Jill Cook
Amman



Dr. Jay Geasner, associate medical director at the Boston area Ayur-Vedic centre, takes a patient's pulse.



Using plants and minerals, Ayur-Vedic doctors like Deepak Chopra provide alternative treatments for modern ills.

Old ways, new diseases

By Clare Pedrick

LANCASTER, Mass. — A growing number of governments are turning to an ancient healing system to help find cures for modern-day ills ranging from alcoholism to heart disease.

Ayur-Veda — literally the Science of Life — is a 6000-year-old Indian doctrine which uses plants, herbs and minerals instead of surgery and drugs. Based on the theory that health is the product of a perfect balance between body and spirit, and that patients must be treated as a whole person, Ayur-Veda is starting to gain worldwide recognition as an alternative to Western medical techniques.

Already governments in India, Brazil, Thailand and Senegal have set up Ayur-Veda programmes, to run in tandem with the countries' established health-care service. Later this summer will see the start of the first such operation in Moscow. Indian-born Dr. Deepak Chopra, head of the American Association of Ayur-Vedic Medicine, has been invited by the Soviet Minister of Health to open a clinic in the nation's capital.

Dr. Chopra, a former chief of staff at the New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, Massachusetts, trained in traditional medicine in his native India before moving to the U.S. "I had a busy practice in Boston, and then I got interested in Ayur-Veda," he explained. "It answered so many of the problems that Western medicine simply didn't address."

Dr. Chopra does not dismiss traditional medicine — he and all the doctors working with him have medical degrees. "Western medicine has some wonderful things to offer. We just tend to use them indiscriminately," he said. According to the doctor, one third of the annual U.S. health care budget is spent on unnecessary drugs and surgical operations.

"Western medicine focuses on relieving and masking the symptoms but does little to cure the disease itself," he said. "It relies on 'magic bullets' which often have unpleasant or dangerous side-effects. We could prescribe 30 per cent less drugs in this country alone by following Ayur-Vedic techniques. Ayur-Veda focuses on prevention and we know that 80 to 90 per cent of illness is related to stress, lifestyle or nutrition. We can influence these dis-

eases greatly, and for the remaining 20 per cent we can maximise the patients' own ability to recover from illness."

Just outside the small town of Lancaster, a 40-minute drive from Boston, Dr. Chopra runs a small but exclusive clinic, housed in a magnificent turn-of-the-century mansion set in 200 acres of rolling parkland.

Guests — they are never referred to as patients — include businessmen hoping to resolve problems of stress, alcohol and tobacco addiction, and movie stars in to recuperate from the rigors of show business. Since it opened three years ago, Elizabeth Taylor, Linda Gray — the Sue Ellen of the Dallas TV series — and members of the Beach Boys rock band have all been clients at the centre.

Other people come to Lancaster suffering from more serious ailments, including chronic arthritis, multiple sclerosis and cancer. In the chronic disease category, Ayur-Veda has scored some notable successes, though doctors are guarded about making claims to have found actual cures.

Of 10 patients treated at Lancaster for multiple sclerosis, two showed a marked improvement, and five showed a dramatic change for the better, doctors report. Another area producing encouraging results is AIDS research. Patients being treated at two experimental Ayur-Veda clinics in New York and San Francisco have all shown a gradual reduction in the severity of their symptoms and, most importantly, an increase in the strength of their immune system, which protects the body against diseases. All have reported weight gains and an improvement in symptoms such as fever, muscular pains, chills and sweating. Most significantly, there has been a major improvement in the mental state of all the patients, a factor which in turn has an effect on the immune system.

Said Dr. Chopra: "They still have the AIDS virus, but they do not seem to get ill. We have patients who have had the virus for eight years without even catching a cold. Of course it does not mean they are cured."

On a lighter note, he explained that a popular treatment among Lancaster's movie star clients is the rejuvenation programme. Doctors claim to have found ways of slowing the aging process, using, among other things, a technique to halt the deteriora-

tion of DHEA sulphate adrenalin, a vital hormone which declines as people get older.

"We have found that you can actually make this hormone increase," said Dr. Chopra. "We have data showing that blood pressure and vision can be improved, and these results have been published."

Treatment at the Lancaster clinic does not come cheaply. A week's stay starts at \$2,200, going up to \$4,300 if you take a royal suite, with a luxury limousine to pick you up at the airport. Dr. Chopra defends such charges by comparing the cost to the price of a stay in a private hospital and to expenses involved in Western-style treatments based on expensive drugs, scans and surgery.

As an in-patient, a client may take a variety of treatments, including aroma therapy — the inhalation of fragrant oils — music therapy — especially effective in treating insomnia and high blood pressure — and colour therapy — the beaming of different colours onto a patient's body. Oil therapy — where warm oils are trickled onto the patient's forehead, has a soothing effect on the central nervous system and allows the brain to function more effectively, say doctors. Steam herbal baths are recommended for the treatment of people with arthritic conditions and weight problems.

Early diagnosis is the key to Ayur-Veda, and doctors have developed a special three-fingered pulse-taking technique, which, they say, can detect the slightest imbalances in the body before they break out into symptoms.

"Far more can be determined from the pulse than just the beat of the heart," said Ingrid Stieg, educational programme director at Lancaster. "It can indicate the most subtle imbalances, even though there appears to be nothing wrong with the person. The pulse can even detect cancer or a weakness in the liver function at a very early stage."

Another function of pulse-taking is to determine a patient's body type. According to Ayur-Vedic doctors, each person is predominantly "vata," "pitta" or "kapha," a factor which will govern their physical and psychological make-up, and influence the type of illnesses they are likely to suffer from.

Dr. Jay Glaser, associate medical director at the centre, explained: "Vata has the qualities of lightness and dryness. People in this category may be prone to

anxiety, depression, indecisiveness and insomnia. Pitta is a quality dominated by heat. Pitta people are often angry and irritable and may be prone to inflammation of the skin, ulcers and gall bladders. Kapha people are often heavy and overweight, and can be dull, stubborn and slow. They are particularly susceptible to asthma and congestion. Vata people can eat all they want and never put on weight, while Kapha people only have to look at food and they get fat!"

Different foods also have the vata, pitta and kapha characteristics, and a carefully controlled diet can be used to adjust excesses of any of the qualities, say doctors. People with too much vata should eat more oils and dairy products. Pitta people should eat sweet fruits, beans and spices but avoid taking food and drink that is piping hot. Kapha people are recommended to eat light, dry foods such as vegetables, barley, millet and rye. They should cut down on all heavy, oily food such as cheese, butter and wheat products.

Plants and herbs used at the Lancaster clinic are mostly imported from India, though some are picked locally in the Massachusetts countryside. "An important principle of Ayur-Veda is that every country has the medicinal flora and minerals that are able to treat the disorders prevalent in that particular area," said Dr. Glaser. For example, "quinine is found in countries where there is malaria. Foxgloves, from which we get digitalis, is found in Europe where heart disease is prevalent."

For that reason, experts from the Ayur-Veda headquarters in Delhi, India, are currently being trained to go out into the field in different parts of the globe to give instruction on how to identify, grow and use plants with healing properties.

"Governments in the developing countries have shown a particular interest in Ayur-Veda," said Dr. Glaser. "There people are far more likely to trust the things they grew up with — plants familiar from their own backyard — than drugs that are manufactured by the big companies."

"It is also far more cost-effective as a health-care system. Herbs cost very little, and this is an important factor in the less developed countries," he said. "Ninety five per cent of disorders can be treated with common plants that can be grown anywhere" — *World News Link*.

Zaire gives visitors a taste of wildlife — on a plate

By Robert Mahoney
Reuters

KINSHASA — Sick of skinny nouvelle cuisine but bored with beef bourguignon? Has curry lost its fire and sushi turned soggy?

Then perhaps you should try Zairean fare — like a crocodile cutlet, or, for those with a truly jumbo-size appetite, elephant a la momba.

This and other fare from Zaire's vast jungles is on offer at most of Kinshasa's African restaurants and food stalls.

The animals are mainly taken by hunters and villagers from the wild in Zaire's northern and eastern provinces. The meat is widely available in Kinshasa and cheaper than prime cuts of beef.

The menu at the Inzia, the capital's best known African eatery, reads for a Westerner like a list of exotic wildlife.

It is larks in rivers, swings through trees, wallows in mud or charges across savannah, the Inzia has got it.

"We specialise in African dishes," beams the owner Mama Ekila.

"We get lots of Europeans here as well as Africans. For first-timers I usually recommend the crocodile without the skin

rather than the baby antelope, a big favourite, which is served with the skin and all the bits."

She says that Africans seem to like Hippopotamus.

A bit tough? "It's just like beef," says Mama.

Elephant a la momba is pieces of elephant — Mana uses only the leg — cooked with palm kernels and a groundnut paste.

"Elephant also resembles beef and takes a lot of cooking."

The tenderer part is the trunk but it's very difficult to come by — the villagers eat it themselves rather than send it to the city.

"In the nine years I have had this restaurant I have served trunk only twice," Mana sighed. But what if the diner is not as thick-skinned as his meal? What can the squeamish eat?

There's always excellent fish from the Congo river. Yet, as one Belgian customer agreed, it seems pointless to come to the Inzia and not try its game, bush meat or reptiles.

So, on down the menu.

"The best of all the game," enthuses Mama, "is the porcupine."

"We hack off the spines with a machete and then burn off the skin in the fire," she reassures. Well there's the first question

answered. And what does it taste like?

You've guessed it, beef. Anything less Bovine? Well, there's monkey, a big hit with Japanese and Chinese customers.

Then Mama's is one of the few places to do boar. Snake or ape both come stewed in a light tomato sauce.

And, of course, the crocodile. Mama serves only the prime cuts — tail cutlets.

"The big, older crocodiles tend to be a bit tough," she admits. "We boil them first then cook them in the oven wrapped in Kasa leaves."

The result: a stringy white meat, a cross between chicken and skate with the flavour of neither, was the opinion of one diner.

Other dishes include boiled bush rat. River turtle is the most expensive dish at \$32.

"The French like antelope," Mama says. "So do the Belgians."

She should know. She spent 28 years in Brussels with her Belgian husband where she ran the first Inzia for three years before returning to Kinshasa in 1980.

Asian customers like the reptiles and monkeys and Africans like it all, she says.

This still does not make choosing any easier. Maybe a tour of the kitchen would help?

"Here is the pantry," says Mama, lifting the lid of a freezer to reveal six macaque monkeys, arms tied to their chests, jaws frozen into a macabre grin. Not the monkey, thank you.

In the next freezer lurk several whole cat-sized antelopes, intact. They are already ruled out.

A third freezer holds neatly sliced crocodile tails, elephant steaks and a bag of lumps which it seemed prudent not to enquire about.

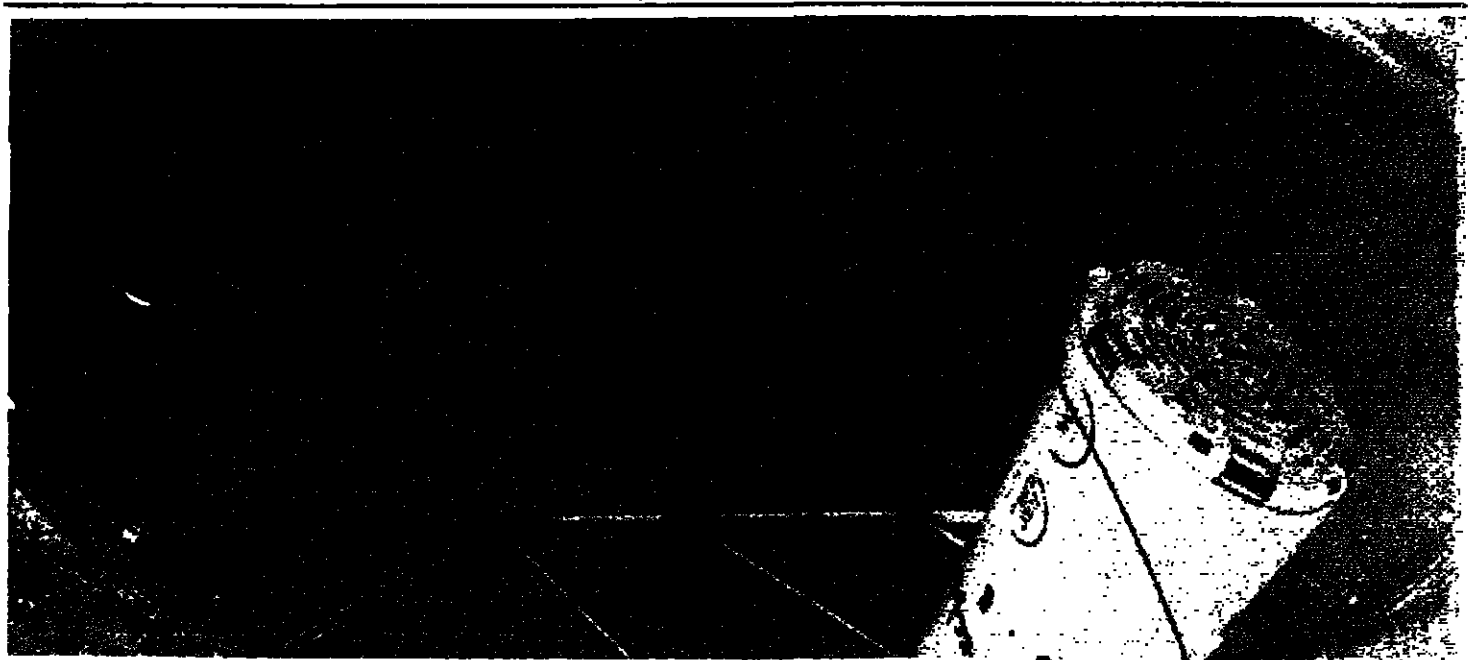
A thick greasy odor wafted from the pots on the charcoal range while a kitchen helper prised apart the coils of a thawing boar.

What comes with these dishes? Boiled plantains, fried sweet bananas, pounded cassava, cassava greens, yams, and rice.

"One thing they eat in the village is gorilla," said Mama. "But we cannot get it here."

Tucked down at the bottom of the menu is fried fish, looking very tempting.

To wash it all down, some Europeans drink imported wine but most customers plump for beer. The bottle of beer arrives — on the label, what else but a crocodile.



'Eurotunnel: Britain—no longer an island

By Camille Herisson

PARIS — On the 15th June 1993, to the strains of "God save the Queen" and the "Marseillaise," a first convoy of passengers will link the French coast to the English coast, under the Channel.

That same year will see Europe opening up to the Single European Market. The "Eurotunnel" will then be one of the big crossroads of the Community. It is estimated that, in the first year, 16.5 million travellers will use it.

In the middle of a cloud of pulverized limestone, Brigitte burrows beneath the sea, her enormous jaws digging a gallery ten metres across.

Brigitte is one of the stars of the biggest workite in the world, that of "Eurotunnel". Seven boring-machines (moles), real factories on the move, go forward like ducks at the speed of one metre an hour, digging their way beneath the bed of the Channel on the way to meeting one another.

Each mole, whose jaws weigh 400 tonnes, is serviced by about thirty men and linked to a long

chain of wagons, pipes and pumps. It burrows beneath the seabed, evacuating the excavated rubble and, with its huge hydraulic arm, installing the concrete voussoirs which will line the gallery.

Fifty kilometres apart, the two sections of the "workite of the century", each as large as an airport, were opened at the end of 1987. The first near Calais and the second near Folkestone. In France, the tunnel was begun in a shaft 50 metres deep, on the site at Sangatte. Work there mobilises 2,000 workers, foremen and engineers, and the same at the foot of Shakespeare's cliffs across the Channel where the British programme has begun.

In fact, there will not be just one tunnel 40 metres beneath the bottom of the Channel, but three: two railway tunnels 7.60 metres across and, between them, a service tunnel 4.80 metres in diameter for maintenance, security and ventilation.

In mid-February, for all three tunnels (150 kilometres to dig),

the English had advanced seven kilometres and the French only three. It appears that on the French side, the enormous difficulties of drilling through white limestone, which is crumbly and lets the water through, were underestimated from the start, before reaching the healthy, impermeable, blue limestone, much easier to burrow through, which the English were lucky enough to strike right away.

For the first time, the rate of progress exceeded 400 metres a week, before Easter, instead of 120 metres at the end of 1988.

Optimism and confidence thus prevail. "The tunnel will be finished by the date planned", it is assured. Besides, the contract between Eurotunnel and Trans-Manche Link, the contractors, includes a drastic clause for each day's delay. The latter would be penalised by four million francs.

The cost of the complete works, estimated at the beginning of 1989, will be 52.27 billion francs. In order to successfully complete its vast undertaking,

Eurotunnel has its own capital of 10 billion francs, provided by its shareholders, and a loan of 50 billion francs granted by a syndicate of 198 banks from all over the world.

British Rail and SNCF goods and passenger trains (including the French northern TGV High-Speed Train) enter the tunnels alternately with the vehicle shuttles. It takes about thirty minutes to go from one terminal to the other and Paris is just three hours away from London.

The capacity of the system is that of a two-lane motorway: that is to say 20 trains and shuttles an hour, in each direction. Later on, it will be possible to increase the rhythm according to the growth in traffic: up to 30 trains and shuttles every hour.

From then on, England, anchored to Europe, will have ceased being an island. And "The Times" will no longer be able to print the headlines, as it did at the beginning of the century: "Storm in Channel: Continent cut-off!" — *French features*

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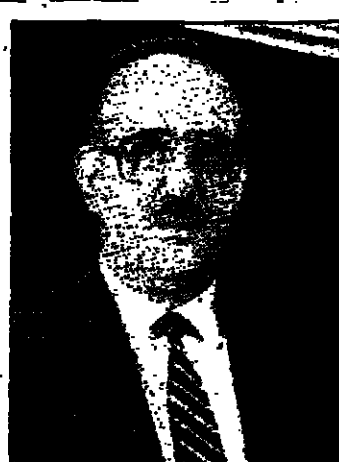
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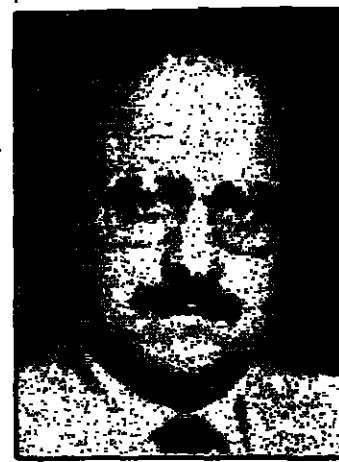
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Unrosy Petra credit card will be blooming again

By Nermesa Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Petra has always been associated, in the minds of Jordanians at least, with an ancient Nabatean city carved into pink stone, but, despite banking scandals at Petra Bank which have added a different colour to the name; that of corruption and "red" foreign currency transactions, Petra still stands as a Jordanian emblem.

Caught in the fallout are the estimated 12,000 holders of Visa credit cards issued by Petra Bank, ranked second biggest commercial banking institution in Jordan; as credit was not easy to come by internationally through the cards in the past few weeks.

"Petra Cards (Visa cards issued by the bank) are frozen temporarily," said Bassam Attari, the new general manager of Petra Bank, told the Jordan Times Saturday.

According to Attari, the "freeze" was a result of "technical problems in processing caused by financial difficulties that rose as a result of initial association with financial corporations linked to (former Petra Bank head Ahmad) Chalabi and Petra Bank in Washington D.C."

Chalabi remains missing after fleeing the country in early August shortly after the Economic Security Committee issued an order to merge Petra Bank with the Jordan-Gulf Bank. A supervisory committee is currently involved in moves to realise the merger.

Chalabi and former Jordan-Gulf Bank general manager Hassan Abdul Aziz, and several senior officials of both banks are under investigation and face possible prosecution for possible gross violations of banking liquidity laws and other regulations governing foreign exchange transactions.

Informed sources said Petra bank had defaulted its payments to Visa Card International when the bank was under the Chalabi management. The amount presently owed by the bank to Visa Card International was described as "large" by the sources. Regardless of the change in management, Petra Bank remains liable for the amount.

Attari, reached by telephone by the Jordan Times, said the bank had already made partial payment of the outstanding dues and that the "problem is limited and is being sorted by the current management of Petra Bank."

"Our operations with Washington-based Visa Card International will resume within a few days through a contact in London," added Attari.

Although the new agreement with Visa International is so far "oral," Attari said that Petra Bank "is now in the process of signing a written one based on new conditions."

The new conditions, according to Attari, will be mainly centred

against the concerned authorities.

Unconfirmed "sightings" of Chalabi were variously reported from places as far apart as Damascus, Paris and Hong Kong as well as London. The governor of Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has dismissed reports that the government was considering a mediation effort with Chalabi and that the fugitive banker would be prosecuted "wherever he is" if investigations produced evidence of "wrong doings."

Text of order

The Jordan Times obtained a copy of the memorandum sent by the minister of finance, in his capacity as head of the Economic Security Committee, to the minister of industry and trade outlining the decision of the committee to freeze the assets of Chalabi, Abdul Aziz and their immediate family members.

"Following is the resolution adopted by the Economic Security Committee under No. 1689 dated Aug. 17, 1989:

In view of the authorisation vested in us according to article 5 of the martial law for finance and economic affairs No. 2 issued in the year 1967, and despite any other legislation or law: Hassan Abdul Aziz, former general manager of the Jordan-Gulf Bank, and Dr. Ahmad Chalabi (Al Jalabi), former general manager of Petra Bank, and their wives, children and brothers are forbidden, either in their personal capacities, individually or collectively, or in their capacities, as such, as partners or board members or shareholders in any company, institution or any other form of business or capacity, from conducting — either in person or by representation for other's accounts — sales, purchases, hypothecations, yieldings or any other form of transactions in real estate, shares and stocks and any other ownership registered in the name of all, any or some of them.

Respectfully,

Minister of Finance
Head of the Economic Security Committee
Basil Jandaneh

cc: Minister of Finance
cc: General Manager of Amman Financial Market
cc: Director-General of Land and Survey Department
cc: H.E. the Governor.

Jordanians to earn more at Aqaba port

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian

workers employed by the Jordan Ports Corporation (JPC) will have their daily minimum wages raised from JD 1.900 to JD 2.400 in a bid to encourage Jordanian workers to take up jobs with the corporation at Aqaba port, according to an announcement by Transport Minister Hikmat Khamash.

The minister said that the decision, which came upon directives from Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker is bound to encourage workers to get employment at the port in handling goods.

According to the JPC Director-General Eid Al Fayer, the chance will be open as of Sunday for the employment of 200 Jordanian workers at the port facilities.

He said that the port city is witnessing growing export/import operations requiring additional manpower which is also needed to work on expansion projects in Aqaba.

He noted that the present 5,000 workers at the port are barely sufficient for the volume of work and for handling the up-to-date machinery and equipment being employed.

Fayer said that the corporation has established a centre to train personnel and workers in maintenance and in handling containers and that it is hoped that 242 trainees to be turned out this year will help reduce Jordan's reliance on foreign workers.

In other activities involving Aqaba, a local company in charge of a unified public transport system announced that it transported more than 13 million tonnes of goods from Aqaba to various destinations inside the country over the past five years.

The company director, Shtawi Jamaani, said that the trucks operating in accordance with the system transported more than 15

million tonnes of phosphate during the same period.

The 10041 trucks operating between the port city and other destinations are owned by Jordanians, Iraqis and Arab nationals, Jamaani noted.

In the first half of this year, the trucks carried 1.5 million tonnes of goods from Aqaba to Iraq and

854,000 tonnes to destinations inside Jordan in addition to 2,849,028 tonnes of phosphate from the mines in southern Jordan to the port for export.

The company is in charge of organising transportation operations from and to the port city which is also a route for Iraqi imports in addition to Jordan.

Norsk Data cuts another 600 jobs

OSLO (R) — Troubled Norwegian computer firm Norsk Data A/S has said it would cut a further 600 jobs to try to reverse a slide deeper into the red. It has already cut 800 jobs this year — around 20 per cent of the workforce. Norsk Data A/S, which has lost out to tough competition in the world mini-computer market, said in a statement it had lost 244 million crowns (\$34.4 million) in the first half of 1989 compared with a loss of 136 million crowns (\$19.2 million) in first-half 1988.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Lyphomed accepts Japanese offer

CHICAGO (R) — Lyphomed Inc, the only company in the United States allowed to sell a drug to treat a pneumonia that is the leading cause of death in AIDS patients, said Friday it accepted a sweetened buyout offer from a Japanese company at \$31.87 a share. Fujisawa Pharmaceutical Co. Inc. proposed Aug. 21 to buy all the shares of Lyphomed it does not already own at \$31 a share. The sweetened proposal values Lyphomed at \$956.1 million, up from \$930 million previously. Fujisawa already owns 30 per cent of the Melrose, Illinois-based drug company and has one designated member on its board. Lyphomed said it received the new offer after Fujisawa made its original proposal. The buyout marks the first time a U.S. drug company has been taken over by a Japanese pharmaceutical firm.

UAL gets \$6.75 billion bid

NEW YORK (R) — UAL Corp, the parent of United Airlines,

said Friday it had received a friendly \$6.75 billion takeover offer from its employees and management and British Airways PLC (B.A.). Industry analysts said the bid for the parent of United Airlines, the second largest U.S. air carrier, would be hard to beat. Under the proposal, employees would own 75 per cent of United, British Airways would own 15 per cent and corporate officers 10 per cent. Under U.S. law, overseas companies cannot own more than 25 per cent of a domestic airline. The buyout group would be able to buy up to 15 per cent of the stock of British Airways, B.A. said in a statement.

EC clears hostile bid for Plessey

BRUSSELS (R) — A hostile multi-billion dollar Anglo-German bid for British electronics and defence equipment group Plessey won final European Community (EC) clearance Friday. The EC's executive commission announced it had formally rejected a complaint by Plessey that the joint offer of £2 billion (\$3.1 billion) by electronics giants General Electric Co. (GEC) of Britain and Siemens A.G. of West Germany broke the bloc's competition rules.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Aug. 26, '89 and ending Wednesday Aug. 30, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1985	4607	2,300	2,300	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	6085	8207	1,360	1,350	1,000
Housing Bank	1659	2964	1,780	1,800	1,000
Arab Bank Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	5,000
Bank of Jordan	—	—	—	—	5,000
Arab Bank	4010	58470	14,500	14,800	5,000
Jordan National Bank	8440	1600244	197,000	193,500	10,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	13997	35624	2,530	2,530	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Financial Investments	61900	134149	2,050	2,390	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	16096	24344	1,530	1,510	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	20514	48921	2,360	2,390	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	200	3500	17,000	17,500	2,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	10350	11669	1,140	1,040	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	100	190	1,900	1,900	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	101560	266296	2,850	2,500	1,000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	4594	13202	2,900	2,880	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	9150	10350	1,080	1,230	1,000
Yamouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	1800	2800	1,600	1,520	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	24948	42068	1,540	1,720	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	4626	5904	1,100	1,410	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Ahiya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	3930	4913	1,250	1,250	1,000
Units for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Deero for Housing and Investment	993150	1074444	0,950	1,080	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaba)	19981	12840	0,630	0,640	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	236214	87593	0,370	0,370	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	6386	958	0,650	0,650	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajeroo	9500	2945	0,830	0,810	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	4620	6833	1,470	1,460	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	709982	1095886	1,420	1,600	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	15300	20427	1,330	1,340	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	5598	16476	2,900	3,000	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Dairy	6190	6778	1,090	1,080	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	27084	122127	4,500	4,430	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	77250	180615	2,400	2,330	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	115798	532671	4,600	4,600	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intal)	6368	10135	1,680	1,570	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	2650	14190	5,450	5,450	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	200	484	2,550	2,420	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	20051	42049	2,120	2,100	1,000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	5100	12745	2,450	2,490	1,000
Chemical Industries	3325	8785	2,500	2,480	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	63380	84999	1,300	1,360	1,000
Dar Al Dawl for Development and Investment	5805	18128	3,150	3,150	1,000
National Steel Industries	31704	24600	2,600	2,430	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	5970	18831	3,120	3,300	5,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5042	40096	7,950	7,950	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	30000	3900	0,140	0,130	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	5650	2405	0,430	0,430	1,000
Arab Investment and International Trade	65744	36630	0,590	0,550	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	22373	63292	2,990	2,800	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	8650	20483	2,400	2,350	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	1150	6178	5,360	5,480	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	280845	37711	1,290	1,360	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Wooden Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning and Packaging	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	4952	92850	18,750	18,750	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	296673	634083	2,230	2,250	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	15465	42932	2,700	2,700	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	180023	324498	1,820	1,800	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	68100	134339	2,000	1,970	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	73645	72145	1,000	0,970	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	4589	5005	1,100	1,100	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	53562	35628	0,640	0,660	1,000
Grand total	3,784,214	7,618,446			

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Maradona, Napoli rift widens

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Soccer star Diego Maradona put off by one more day his return to Italy to rejoin the Napoli club and expressed unhappiness with his contract.

"I'm going to talk with the person who pays me, that is to say, the president of Napoli," Corrado Ferlaino, the 28-year-old forward said in brief comments to reporters at Ezeiza international airport.

"I will ask that he clear up the situation," Maradona said after getting out of his car to complain his father was pushed by reporters, and then kicking a photographer.

Maradona, whose contract runs through 1993, did not explain what needed to be cleared up. Newspapers in Argentina and Italy have carried reports that he is being wooed by the French club Olympique de Marseille, and Napoli refuses to let him go.

"Obviously, Maradona was unhappy. If the problems are not arranged, on Monday I'm coming back to Argentina," he said.

Earlier, Maradona said he was skipping Friday's flight because there was no room in first class for him and his agent Guillermo Coppola. The government news agency Telam reported that Maradona said he planned to fly to Italy on Saturday.

He was due back a month ago. The Italian league commented last Sunday.

Maradona and Coppola have said variously that the soccer star who led Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup feared for his relative's safety in Naples, was unhappy at how the club was treating him, or was merely extending his vacation.

Reuter adds from Napoli: Napoli Club meanwhile has filed a claim for damages and moved to cancel its publicity contract with Maradona, judicial officials said Friday.

They said Napoli filed the claim on August 18, saying that Maradona's image could no longer be used to promote the club because of his refusal to return from Argentina to join Napoli for the new season.



Diego Maradona

The officials said the case would be heard in Naples on November 14.

The club said the four-year contract, which started only two months ago, was also null and void because Maradona had told reporters he wanted to leave Napoli and play for French champions Marseille.

Amid lights, cameras

Princess Anne leaves Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Princess Anne, dogged by reporters for any scrap of comment about her marital problems, left the International Olympic Committee's annual meeting Friday with a thank-you and a vote of confidence from the committee's top official.

The princess, an IOC member from Britain and president of the International Equestrian Federation, stayed through the end of the committee's three-day annual

meeting, then left by private plane for a visit to Belize.

Shadowed by a Scotland Yard detective and the rest of her entourage, she passed through the crowded lobby of the Resort Hotel where the meetings took place, bathed in the bright lights of television cameras.

The princess, an IOC member for the last year, became the focus of a media sideshow here after statements released in Britain on Wednesday that she and



Princess Anne

her husband, Mark Phillips, were separating. Some 80 reporters and camera crews flew into San Juan, the capital of Puerto Rico, just to cover the princess.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THE AUCTION TELLS THE STORY

Both vulnerable. North deals.
NORTH
♠ K J 7 6
♥ 9 5
♦ A K 6
♣ 10 6 2
WEST
♠ 10 8 3 2
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 9 8
♣ J 9 7 3
EAST
♠ A Q 4
♥ 7 5
♦ J 10 4 2
♣ A K Q 3
SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ A K Q J 4
♦ Q 7 5 3
♣ 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 NT Dbl 2 ♠
Pass Pass 3 ♥ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠.
How would you like to be declarer and know where every missing high card is located? Once in a while, you will come across a hand where the auction makes it look like you are playing with glass cards.

South's double of one-into trump and subsequent jump in hearts created a forcing auction. North could do no more than rebid his suit, and a normal contract of four hearts was the result.

When dummy came down, de-

clarer was faced with four possible losers—three in the black suits and a diamond unless the suit broke evenly. In his hand and dummy he could see 23 high-card points, and since East had shown at least 16 with his one no trump overall, the most West could have was one of the two minor-suit jacks. If diamonds were 4-2, as was likely, declarer would have to set up a spade trick to take care of his loser in that suit.

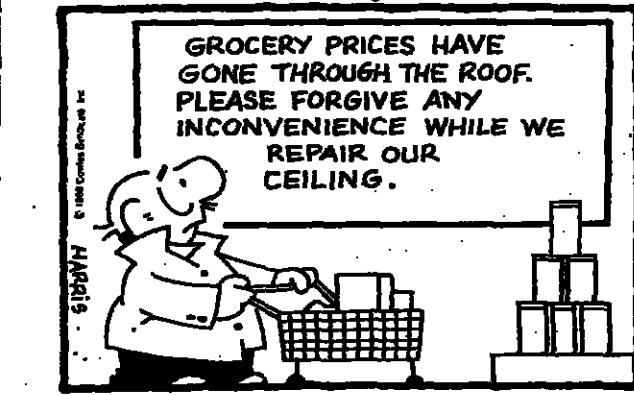
Two things were obvious: Leading a spade to either the king or jack would be futile, since East was marked with A-Q; and South would need every entry in dummy if he were going to collect a spade trick.

Therefore, declarer won the opening lead in hand and drew trumps in three rounds. Next came a spade to the nine. When that fished the queen from East, the contract was safe. East tried three rounds of clubs. Declarer ruffed the third, crossed to the king of diamonds and led the king of spades from the table.

Had East not covered, declarer intended discarding a diamond. When East put up the ace, declarer ruffed, crossed to the ace of diamonds and shuffled his last diamond on the jack of spades. The deep finesse had brought home the contract.

THE BETTER HALF.

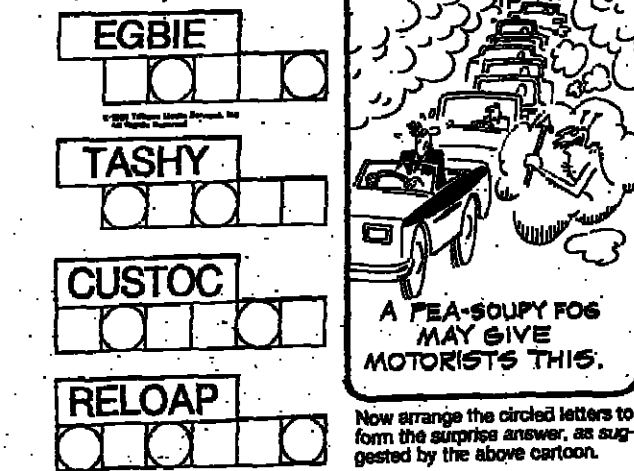
By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: BULLY GIANT SONATA DEMURE
Answer: He promised first that he would be this—TRUE TO THE LAST

SPORTS IN BRIEF

TOP OPERA SINGERS: Opera singers Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras and Luciano Pavarotti will perform together in Rome during the 1990 World Soccer Cup, organizers announced Friday. The tenors will hold a two-hour concert at the baths of Caracalla, where the Rome opera's outdoor season is held each summer. The concert will be held on July 7, 1990, the eve of the final of the World Cup at Rome's Olympic stadium. The tenors said they will sing various songs and opera arias individually and then sing together but they had not agreed on the programme yet. The concert's proceeds will go to charity organizations. (AP)

TYSON TO DEFEND TITLE AGAINST CANADIAN: Mike Tyson will defend his heavyweight championship against Canadian Razor Ruddock in Edmonton on Nov. 28, promoter Gerry Stevenson said Friday. Stevenson said the fight will take place in the Northlands Coliseum, which won out over the skydome in Toronto, the saddle dome in Calgary, B.C. place in Vancouver, and Olympic stadium in Montreal. Stevenson and Sonny McPhee were part of a group that paid Don King, Tyson's promoter, \$3 million for the promotional rights to the fight. "We have a signed, firm contract with King. We're working to make this the biggest thing that has ever hit Edmonton as far as a single sporting event and I'm sure we're going to succeed," he said. (AP)

DOCTORS REMODEL VAN BASTEN'S KNEE: Doctors in Brussels have remodelled part of the left knee of Dutch international striker Marco van Basten, his Italian club AC Milan said Friday. Surgeons reshaped the player's meniscus, a disc of cartilage, in a bid to counter van Basten's tendinitis problem for which he had been undergoing treatment in Amsterdam. A statement from the European champions said van Basten would return to Italy Monday. "Within 20 days he'll be able to start running again and within a month he'll play for the team," it said. AC Milan are already missing dutchman Rudi Gullit. He has been ordered to rest a nagging knee injury for six weeks and doctors say he may need a third operation before he can play (R)

AQUITA, IVAN WIN OVERALL GRAND PRIX TITLES: Said Aquita and Paula Ivan, the premier middle-distance runners of their generation, won the men's and women's overall Grand Prix titles respectively for the second successive year Friday. Pacemakers Pascal Clouvel of France and Kenyan Charles Cheruiyot kept Aquita on schedule to break his own world 5,000 metres record before Cheruiyot dropped out with five laps to go. (R)

Morocco beats Jordan 4-0

BAGHDAD (AP) — Morocco beat Jordan 4-0 Friday in the second match of the third Palestine soccer cup-under 19 tournament.

Ragbi Saeed scored the first goal for the North African team in the 67th minute. A fellow striker, Sabiq Mohammad, lobbed the second a minute later.

Sbata Munir, replacing Mohammad in the second half of the match, scored in the 82nd minute, shooting the ball in a formidable strike from outside the cross bar, followed a minute later by another goal secured by Hawzi Salim.

The Moroccans lost a chance to score their first goal during a penalty shot in the 22nd minute.

The Iraqis, in a match that kicked off the 14-day tournament, beat North Yemen 4-0 on Thursday.

The Iraqis have spent about 1.5 million dinars (\$4 million) on the tournament, which is co-sponsored by the Arab Football Federation.

Among the favourites to win 14-nation championship are Saudi Arabia, who won the second tournament in 1985, and Algeria, runners-up in that event which they hosted.

U.S. baseball commissioner quoted Dante, banned Pete Rose

NEW YORK (AP) — Angelo Bartlett Giamatti went from renaissance scholar to baseball commissioner, from a man who quoted Dante to the man who banned Pete Rose.

Giamatti, 51, who once said his biggest vice was cigarettes, died Friday after suffering a heart attack at his Martha's vineyard retreat.

It happened only eight days after he suspended Rose for life, ending a six-month battle over allegations that the Cincinnati Reds' manager bet on his team.

Giamatti, president of Yale University from 1978-85, once said the only thing he ever wanted was to be American League president. Instead, he became National League president in December 1986, succeeding the retiring Chub Feeney, then succeeded Peter Ueberroth as commissioner last April 1.

It seemed an odd move, trading academics for athletics, but Giamatti, a lifelong baseball fan, found it natural. "Dante would have been delighted," he said when he became

National League president.

"People of letters have always gravitated to sport," Giamatti said last fall after being elected commissioner. "I've been a lover of baseball. I even tried to write about it. I always found it the most satisfying and nourishing of games outside of literature."

In fact, Giamatti has always been torn between baseball and academics. He often walked around the Yale campus wearing a Boston Red Sox cap and carrying a transistor radio to pick up his favourite team's games.

That was something of a curiosity at Yale, a man whose baseball metaphors sometimes seemed out of place.

For example, when he resigned as Yale president in 1985, he said: "I can still run and catch the fly in centre field."

In explaining the reaction of his academic colleagues when he accepted the NL president's job on June 10, 1986, he said: "One group thought it was witty, the other thought it was the ultimate proof of my essential unsoundness."

But he added:

There were some interesting similarities to where I had been in the sense that both cultures were very historically oriented and in some ways retrospective. And both were fairly close, in terms of how people come up the ranks."

But Giamatti never had real athletic ability, so he followed his father, a professor of Italian at Mount Holyoke College, into academics. He earned degrees in comparative literature from Yale, then taught at Princeton and New York University before joining the English department at his alma mater in 1967.

When he became National League president, he declared himself a laissez-faire leader.

"I think in general, one tam-

Evert faces the new era

By John Phillips
Reuter

NEW YORK — Chris Evert has seen the handwriting of youth on the wall telling her to call it a career and on Sunday she will see it in person across the net in 15-year-old Monica Seles.

Evert, 34, eliminated Patricia Tarabini 6-2, 6-4 on Friday and made it to the fourth round where she will confront Seles, the young sensation from Yugoslavia.

Seles, who advanced with a 7-6, 7-2 victory over American Shaun Stafford, was not even born by the time Evert had reached the semifinals at the open for the third time.

Evert says this will be her last U.S. Open tennis tournament and, with the exception of playing in a couple of odd tournaments, she will retire at the end of this season.

The Seles generation is the reason. Earlier this year Evert lost to Seles in the final of a tournament in Houston, an event that forced the American to realize that her era was over and marked the then-unknown Yugoslav as a likely successor.

"The fact is, I'm not going to get any better, and they are," Evert said recently.

Evert's decision is also linked to intensity—or lack of it as she gets older. Physically she says she

feels better than she has in five years, but the intensity is not there anymore.

"It actually hurt me, true pain, to stay intense for more than a couple of points at a time," Evert said recently, referring to her defeat by Seles.

"From now on, all these girls will be tough players. A lot of them have already beaten me, so I have respect for their games. Hopefully, the adrenaline will come naturally, and not in a forced way," Evert said.

Seles is not looking forward to playing the legend who "influenced me a lot, I think, by bringing femininity into the tennis game. She's just so mentally tough..."

But the girl with the frizzy blonde hair is ready for Evert.

"We are both backcourt players and our serve-and-volleys are pretty solid. We're both pretty fast and mentally, we're both pretty tough," she said.

Seles is not so awed that she does not detect a flaw in Evert.

"I think she got a little nervous," Seles said of her win in Houston this year in their only previous encounter. "Sometimes she gets pretty shaky, but you have to bring her to that point."

"No, I don't want to play her. But if I have to, I have to," Seles said.

Seles understands that the crowd will be on the side of the



Chris Evert

American who has never been ranked lower than fourth in her 18-year professional career and who won at least one Grand Slam tournament for 13 consecutive years.

Evert is remembered by many as the unseeded 16-year-old who stunned the stars of the game in 1971 by reaching the semifinals at the U.S. Open and going on to win six title times in addition to seven French opens and three Wimbledon.

"That's totally alright if they're going to root for Chris, because this is her last (Open) tournament and playing against a 15 year old. So I think that's really alright," Seles said.

IOC ponders how to punish dopers

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

The fallout from its worst doping scandal is forcing the International Olympic Committee to take a hard look at how it punishes drug users and those who help them cheat.

The IOC, wrapping up its 95th session on Friday, agreed to study tougher sanctions against drug use, with the focus on an athlete and his entourage.

"Perhaps we have been too ambiguous," Prince Alexandre de Merode, head of the IOC's medical commission, said. "We are always talking about harsher penalties. Perhaps now we should spell these out."

The action was sparked by a proposal from Anita de Frantz, an IOC member from the United States, to impose a life ban from Olympic eligibility on any athlete who tests positive for drugs at the games, whether or not it was a first offense.

First offenders generally are barred from international competition for two years, so anyone flunking a drug test for the first time at the Olympics generally would be eligible to compete in the games, four years later.

IOC members, including Samaranch, said a life ban for a

first offence was too much.

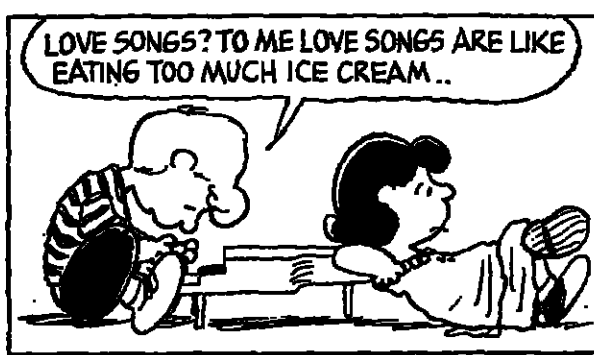
But the committee is finding it cannot shake the legacy of Ben Johnson, the Canadian sprint champion stripped of his gold medal and world-record time in Seoul for steroid use.

"People look to us for the drug issue because we suspended the best athlete, the star," Samaranch said.

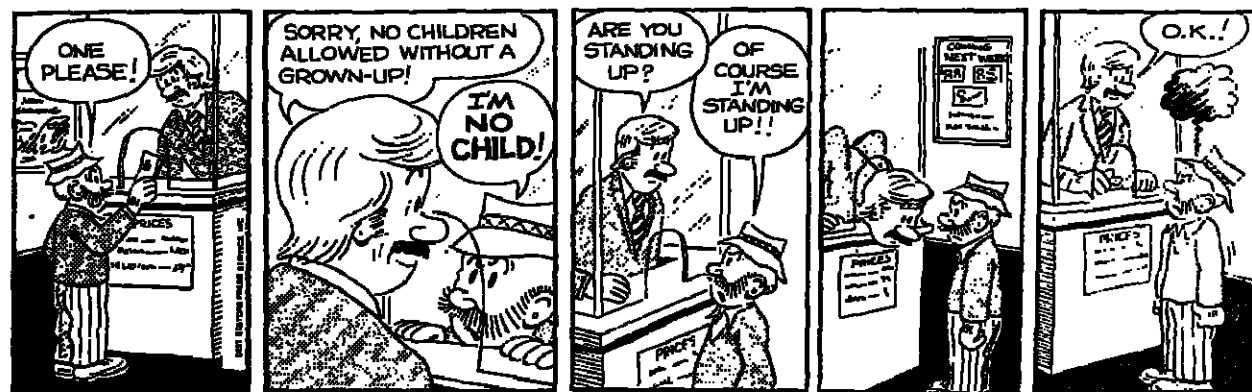
De Frantz said she was pleased that her proposal helped lead to a review of what the IOC was doing about drugs.

"We had a very thorough discussion and I'm glad we're going to study it," she said.

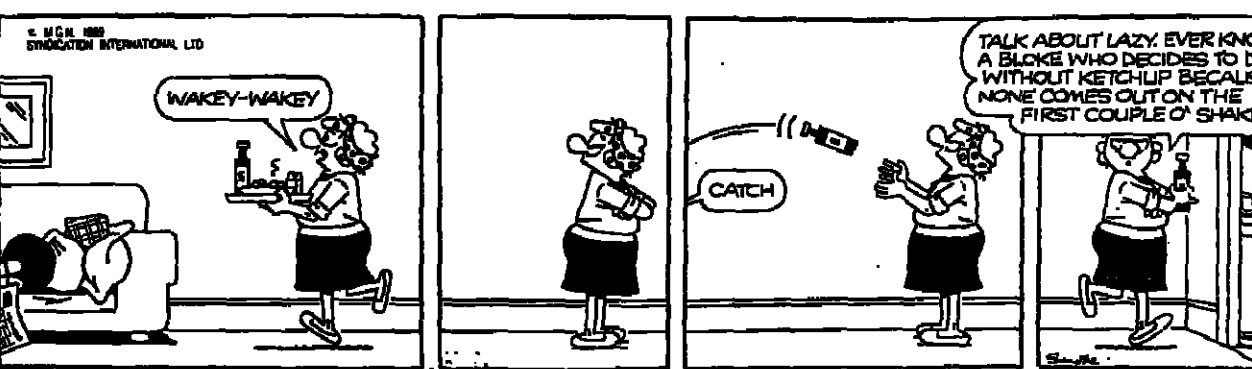
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp





Investigators in Medellín inspect the damage at one of six liquor stores bombed by cocaine traffickers.

U.S. to send fighters to Colombia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States will send eight fighter jets to Colombia next week in the first shipment of a \$65-million package to help the government battle the drug lords, the Defense Department said Friday.

The eight OA-37 jets will be flown to Colombia Monday from military reserve units in Illinois and Michigan and turned over to the Colombian military, Defense Department spokesman Pete Williams told reporters.

On Tuesday, he said, five UH-

1 Huey transport helicopters will be flown to Colombia on a C-5 transport aircraft that will also carry bullet-proof vests to protect judges from attacks by drug traffickers.

Colombia has launched a major offensive against drug cartels after the recent murders of a prominent presidential candidate, a judge and a police chief. The cartels, in turn, declared war on the government.

The Huey helicopters to be ferried down Tuesday were

purchased earlier by Colombia and are not part of the \$65 million emergency package announced last week by President George Bush.

Williams said the full package of aid has not been completed, but two C-130 transport aircraft will be flown to Colombia Sunday for use by the Colombian military in dispersing the equipment.

In his announcement, Bush said the United States had offered 21 helicopters to Colombia as well as fixed-wing air-

craft and other arms, but Williams said Friday no final agreement had been reached on the helicopters.

He said the twin-engine OA-37 attack jets were well-suited for Colombia's war on drugs because cocaine-producing labs and drug gangs were often located high in mountainous country.

Colombia already has some of the small fighter jets as well as Huey helicopters and could quickly begin using the ones to be shipped next week, Williams told reporters.

Cape Town police battle protesters; Boesak held

CAPE TOWN (R) — South African police and anti-government demonstrators clashed in central Cape Town Saturday and more than 400 people, including anti-apartheid cleric Allan Boesak, were detained.

Witnesses said police moved in on the demonstrators, protesting at next week's race-based general elections, outside St. George's Anglican Cathedral close to the South African parliament.

"Defy, defy, defy," shouted Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, before being hustled away by riot police.

More than 100 onlookers cheered in support of the demonstrators and shouted "viva" as police drove them away in large trucks.

Police used whips and batons to disperse the anti-apartheid protest, which had been banned under South Africa's stringent emergency laws.

Saturday shoppers fled in panic and some fell to the pavement as the clashes spread through the crowded city centre.

In nearby Greenmarket Square, police sprayed demonstrators with purple dye from two water cannon trucks and lobbed tear gas into the crowd.

One man jumped on to a water

cannon, grabbed the nozzle and wrestled it upwards to prevent the jet hitting the crowd. Police overcame the man and dragged him away.

Police had swarmed into the city centre to prevent the protest against Wednesday's parliamentary elections which exclude the black majority.

Riot police and dog patrols took over the areas where the protesters had gathered while on the outskirts of the city, road blocks stopped all traffic from the black and coloured (mixed-race) townships.

The defiance campaign has grown into the most sustained and intense anti-apartheid protest since the government imposed emergency rule in 1986.

In the black township of Soweto, near Johannesburg, church groups said they would stage an outdoor rally later Saturday. On Sunday protests are planned at the whites-only beaches of Durban.

But police have cracked down

heavily on the campaign and hundreds of people have been arrested in the past few days. Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, his wife and 34 other people were detained for four hours Friday after marching through Cape Town in defiance of a police ban.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner told reporters after being released: "I am increasingly proud of being part of a community that has decided enough is enough with apartheid."

Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok said Friday that police had hit hard at the ring-leaders of the campaign, which is being coordinated by the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) opposition alliance. He pledged they would continue to do so.

He stressed that police were not acting to enforce apartheid laws but said they would not tolerate civil disobedience which led to confrontation and violence.

In Cape Town, nearly all buses and taxis heading out of the black and coloured (mixed-race) townships surrounding the city were stopped and searched.

Newspapers informed government sources as saying that the MDM's leadership was being rounded up.

Estonia sacks conservatives

MOSCOW (R) — The Communist Party of Soviet Estonia, defying Kremlin criticism of an upsurge in Baltic nationalism, has dismissed two leading conservatives and set out a programme of independent policy from Moscow.

The sacking took place at a party session of the Estonian party Central Committee Friday, called to discuss a Kremlin declaration last weekend slamming the growing movement for separatism in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Other conservative figures were replaced by open advocates of reform and supporters of the popular front mass movement, set up to promote political and economic autonomy.

Estonian television spokesman Andrus Raid named the senior men replaced as Arur-Bernhard Upsi, secretary for agriculture, and Pyotr Vaskov, chief of the party's administrative department.

"Vaskov in particular had the

reputation of being a member of the old guard. You could feel his shadow everywhere," Raid said. He was replaced by regional party secretary Hilari Eller, a known supporter of the popular front.

Raid said Upsi had been replaced by economist Arder Veli. Fifteen members of the party Central Committee had been replaced or demoted, with more radical reformers promoted in their stead, he added.

And in another move certain to further anger the Kremlin, the Estonian party announced it was adopting a programme asserting a new political flexibility.

"It aims to give the party a far more independent profile and as a separate party, but to make clear it is not a rubber stamp for Moscow," Raid said.

The central authorities were also expected to issue a sharp response to two declarations from the Baltic council, a joint group of radicals from the three Baltic

republics. The first condemned what it called a campaign of disinformation in the Soviet media about the Baltic situation and denounced the Kremlin warning as a most "sinister and dangerous document."

The second appealed to United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to take up the Baltic issue in the U.N. General Assembly.

The official TASS news agency quoted Viktor Chebrikov, the Soviet party's legal affairs chief and former head of the KGB, as accusing party leaders in the Baltic, Transcaucasia and Moldavia of giving up principles and embarking "openly or covertly on erroneous programmes."

Hundreds of thousands of people have been attending demonstrations across the country to demand an end to Moscow's monopoly of control over their affairs.

Extortionists threaten Britain with rabies

LONDON (R) — Extortionists have threatened to unleash animals infected with rabies across Britain unless they are paid £2 million (\$3 million), police said Friday.

A police spokesman said the threat was being taken seriously. The deadly virus is almost unknown in Britain, which has strict quarantine rules.

Earlier this year in Britain a baby food was spiked with glass splinters by a consumer terrorist demanding £1 million (\$1.5 million) from manufacturers.

The elaborate rabies plan was outlined in a letter stuffed in a post box in London's exclusive

Park Lane after a phone call to police.

"If the money was not paid, an unspecified number of animals infected with rabies would be released at unspecified points around Britain," a police spokesman said.

The letter instructed police to contact the writer through the personal columns of national newspapers to show they were taking the threat seriously. This was done Friday.

But Sky Television News said the message was placed 24 hours after the deadline had run out and that rabid animals could

already be roaming free.

Sky quoted the letter as saying animals were infected with rabies last Sunday and were taken to various parts of the country Monday. They were to be released Thursday if the money had not been paid.

The police spokesman declined to say if contact had already been established with the extortionists or why the message was placed Friday and not the day before.

Police did not rule out a hoax, but a special unit of the serious crimes squad was dealing with the case.

Rabies is most commonly found in dogs, cats, foxes and rodents. Infected animals foam at the mouth and develop an aversion to water. If they bite humans, the disease is fatal unless it is treated immediately.

The last reported British case was in 1969 when an infected dog was discovered in Camberley, southern England. It had shared a quarantine kennel with a rabid dog from India.

The virus kills thousands of people in India each year and is also found in other parts of Asia, Africa and South America.

E. Germans flood into Hungary

BUDAPEST (R) — East Germans seeking to go to the west flooded into makeshift camps in Hungary Saturday amid reports that a mass evacuation to West Germany was being organised.

The head of the largest of the camps run by the Red Cross said 200 East Germans had arrived by mid-morning.

"They have gone crazy over rumours based on Western press reports," Andras Kovacs, head of the camp at Csallert, told Reuters.

"They believe that if they come to the camp they will be given a kind of passport issued by the International Red Cross and taken straight to West Germany," he said.

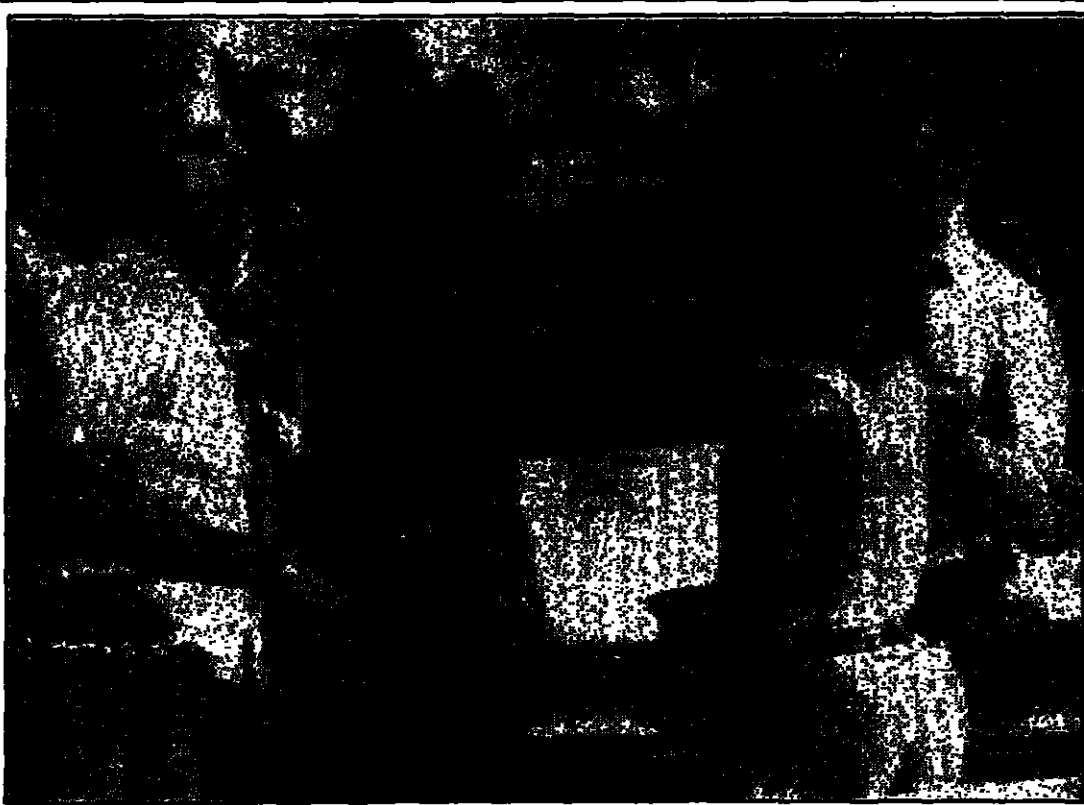
"We know nothing about such an agreement," he added. However, West German and Hungarian statements have made it clear something is being organised at official level to solve the problem of East Germans seeking to use Hungary's open border and liberal policies as a springboard to the West.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn was reported by the official MTI news agency to have briefed his East German counterpart Oskar Fischer Thursday "on the planned Hungarian measures aimed to bring a rapid solution."

In West Germany, social democratic politician Karsten Voigt told reporters Hungary would very soon find a solution after the end of East German school holidays this weekend, based on the principle of allowing everybody who wanted to do so to leave the country.

In Austria, the Red Cross reported that only about 20 East Germans had crossed from Hungary during the night, a dramatic reduction from previous nights which was attributed both to tighter Hungarian border controls and the expectation of an organised exodus.

The director of the Red Cross for the border region of Burgenland, Heinrich Unger, told Reuters he did not expect any exodus until Tuesday or Wednesday because organisation of transport and of the newcomers' reception in West Germany had not been completed.



A white man shouts at a black demonstrator who turned out during a protest march in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn Saturday.

No bail for suspect in New York racial killing

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The alleged gunman in the killing of a black youth in a white Brooklyn neighbourhood was ordered held without bail Friday after pleading innocent.

Joseph Fama, 18, was placed in protective custody at the Brooklyn house of detention after a hearing in Brooklyn criminal court, said correction department spokesman Tom Antenen.

Prosecutors said Fama was a leader of the gang of whites that chased four black teens on Aug. 28 through the Bensonhurst area of Brooklyn, a district of New York. The whites were armed with baseball bats, golf clubs and at least one gun, prosecutors said. One of the blacks, 16-year-old Yusuf Hawkins, was fatally shot in the chest.

Fama fled after the shooting and remained a fugitive until early Thursday when he surrendered to police in northern New York State. He was returned to Brooklyn, where witnesses identified him in a lineup, Burns said.

Hours after his return, an estimated 7,500 protesters clashed

with police during a march through Brooklyn. Twenty-three officers were injured in the brawl, and Mayor Edward Koch Friday criticised those who fought with police.

Fama is charged with two counts of second-degree murder, assault, criminal possession of a weapon, menacing, riot and aggravated harassment.

Six other Bensonhurst men have been arrested in the attack, and two of them, Keith Mondello, 19, and Pasquale Raucci, 18, have been indicted on murder charges.

At their arraignment Friday in a jammed courtroom at Brooklyn state supreme court, both pleaded innocent and Justice John J. Delury refused prosecutors' request that bail be revoked and allowed Mondello to remain free on \$100,000 bail and Raucci on \$75,000.

A tense confrontation followed a few moments later with the Rev. Al Sharpton, an adviser to the Hawkins family, shouting threats at Mondello's lawyer Stephen Murphy.

A few minutes later, outside

the courthouse, a Sharpton supporter attacked a television camera crew that refused to stop filming Hawkins' family.

Two crew members who said they were punched said they would file a complaint. A newspaper photographer also said she was attacked by the group.

Campaign issue

Just nine days after Hawkins died, his killing has become a major issue in the mayoral campaign in which a black candidate, David Dinkins, seeks to end Koch's 12-year rule.

Hawkins went with three friends to Bensonhurst to buy a used car at 9:30 p.m. They never got to see the car.

Hawkins and his friends were surrounded by a gang of up to 30 white armed with baseball bats and fired up because a local woman was dating blacks.

According to witnesses, there was a shout of "let's club the niggers" and then a shout of "the hell with beating them up," before four shots rang out, two fatally wounding Hawkins.

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Mark Ebbeson

NO BRUMMELL
By Arthur S. Verdesca

ACROSS

- 1 — Aho
- 2 Term
- 3 Film star Gie
- 4 Penetration
- 5 Not king
- 6 Refused copy
- 7 — space
- 8 — 2000
- 9 TROUSERS
- 10 FORMAL WEAR
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Diagrams

19 X 19, by Roger Cohen

ACROSS

- 1 Sound of
- 2 Famous "Bear"
- 3 Of old age
- 4 Public speaker
- 5 Flamingo
- 6 Horn
- 7 Flat-topped hill
- 8 Household
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